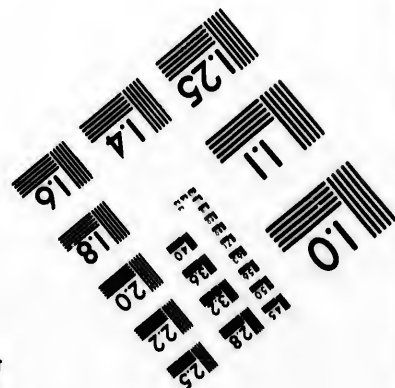
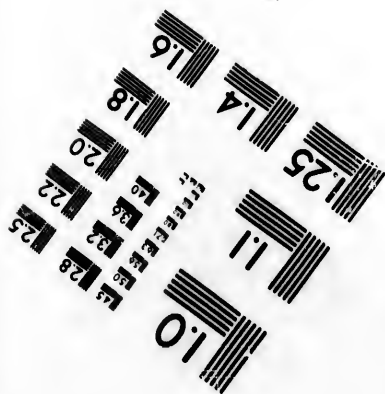
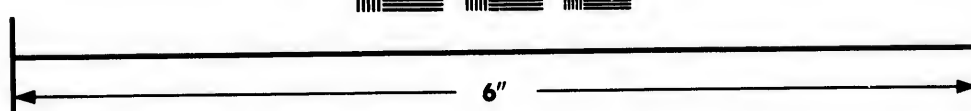
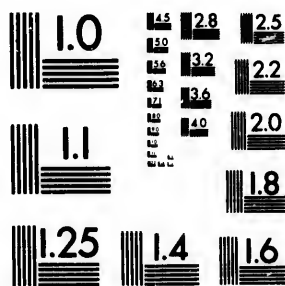


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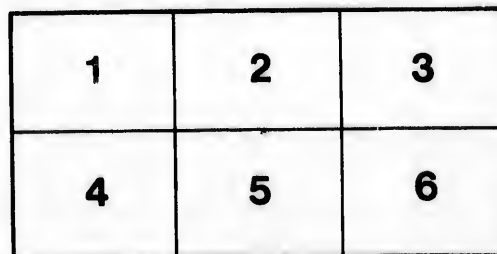
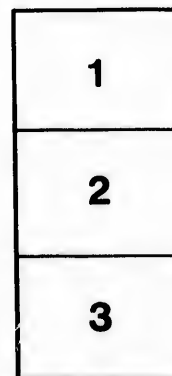
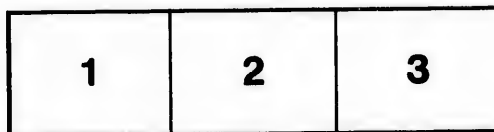
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THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

CONSISTING OF

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and
SELECTIONS FROM PERFORMANCES OF MERIT,
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JAMES ANDERSON, LL.D.,

F.R.S. F.A.S. S.

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of the Agricultural Society in Manchester; of the Society for promoting Natural History,
London; of the Academy of Arts, Sciences, and Belles Lettres, Dijon; and Correspondent
Member of the Royal Society of Agriculture, Paris; Author of several Performances.

VOLUME SIXTH.

APIS MATINEZ MORE MODOQUE.

Hor.



EDINBURGH:

PRINTED FOR JAMES ANDERSON, IN THE YEAR MDCCCXI.

VOL. VI,

AP3
B5

Vol: 6 n°1

M. W. McR.

11

ENGRAVED FOR THE BEE.



GEORGE HERIOT
Founder of the Boys Hospital
AT EDINBURGH.

PLATE. SUR. 28. 1569.

*From an Original Picture in the collection of the Earl of Portland.
Published as the Act Directs. 1801. 87. 1790.*

THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, November 9, 1791.

For the Bee.

Sketch of the Life of George Heriot.

[With a PORTRAIT.]

GEORGE HERIOT, the founder of that noble charity at Edinburgh, which has produced so many useful and valuable citizens, was the son of George Heriot of Trabrown, or Trabrane, in East-Lothian, and was born in the beginning of June 1563†. His father was a goldsmith in Edinburgh, and made a handsome fortune for the times and country in which he lived, and gave a suitable education to a numerous family. George, the son, worked with his father as a jeweller and goldsmith, and at the age of 23, in the year 1586, was by his father's interest, creditably married to Christian Marjoribanks, daughter of Simon Marjoribanks, merch-

† As appears by the appointment of the annual procession of the boys, and an inscription on his original portrait, in the collection of the Earl of Buchan, who is possessed likewise of an original portrait of George's father, both of which were presented to him by Mr George Paton of the customs, son of Mr Paton bookseller at Edinburgh.

wife have been lost to society from the want of proper education.

Without entering into controversial arguments concerning the use and abuse of public charities in Britain, it may be safely affirmed, that considering the loose morality of a wealthy country and nation, it is of high importance to the good of society, that as few individuals as possible should be without proper culture, and as many as possible kept out of the reach of baneful contagion. This seems to be the scope and consequence of George Heriot's foundation; and whatever may have been his motive, his destination of his fortune is entitled to the gratitude of his country.

Hereafter it may be proper to consider the numbers that have been educated in this hospital, and compare them with the list of citizens that have in consequence been beneficial to the commonwealth. But in all ages and countries few are the individuals who rise above mediocrity, or make themselves known to a distant posterity. In the overflow of wealth, acquired by plunder and commerce, we ought not to check that useful vanity which leads to charitable institutions. The late Dr Blacklock projected an hospital for the blind, which is yet wanting; and a foundation for old ladies of small fortune, who have had a genteel education, and pine in isolated poverty, is another not less to be desired. The old and feeble, as well as the young and active, ought to be remembered.

" Sweet sets the sun of stormy life, and sweet

" The morning light in Mercy's dew's array'd."

Thomson.

*Remarks on Grecian and Gothic Architecture.
Part Second.*

(Continued from Vol. V. p. 278.)

TO speak in the language of the painter, the church of St. Stephen, Walbrook, may be called a *cabinet-piece*.

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1791. GRECIAN AND GOTHIC ARCHITECTURE.

It is not of dimensions sufficient to admit of grandeur. Neatness, in a structure of this size, is all that could with propriety have been aimed at. The architect, however, forgetting these principles, has finished the *inside* of that church with those kinds of ornaments which are adapted to produce the effect of grandeur alone in architecture. Suitable to this idea, it is surrounded with Grecian columns, which are of such a diminutive size as to be made, as I believe, of wood. These are crowned, as usual, with the architrave, frieze, and cornice, complete; and, that no ornament might be wanting, wooden arches have been devised to connect these pillars with each other. An ancient poet, who has been usually thought to possess a good taste, has said, in respect to things of this nature, *ridiculum odi*; and perhaps we have no such certain rule to direct us as that of avoiding devices in architecture that are obviously useless and incongruous, when the nature of the materials employed, or the size and objects to be effected by the structure, are considered. This rule, however, appears to have been very little adverted to in general by architects; and, in the present instance especially, seems to have been entirely disregarded. Fashion, however, that sovereign arbiter of taste, hath pronounced this structure a paragon of elegance and beauty. These wooden arches will have their run of vogue, like the umbrageous arcades cut out by the scissars, to connect the growing trees into the appearance of a piece of solid masonry, esteemed by our forefathers the quintessence of elegance; and probably, like them too, will fall in time into contempt, as unnatural and absurd. An arch of stone is doubtless a sublime invention for connecting distant objects together, that owes its stability to the weight of the materials of which it is composed. Wherever, therefore, this becomes necessary, its obvious utility would be sufficient to entitle it to our applause, independent of any other consideration. For

the same reason, a tottering semblance of such an arch formed of wood, which would have been infinitely stronger and more simple in its form, if carried forward in a straight line, ought to be deemed an useless deviation from plain sense in quest of a fancied ornament. Such, I am inclined to believe, will be, at some future period, the decision of posterity concerning the arcades in this boasted piece of architecture. At that time the critic, with a decisive tone, may perhaps observe, that the architect, with a wonderful exertion of ingenuity, had even contrived to render these airy columns, that in one point of view seem to be in danger of falling from want of solidity, when viewed in another light appear loaded and heavy. The arches being contrived to spring from above a deep projecting cornice, which rests upon an entablature and frieze, that seems to have no continuity of connection with the column, can only be apparently retained in its place by its own gravity. But, in this case, the height of this ornament so far exceeds its breadth in every direction, as to convey no idea of solidity from that circumstance; and, by the great projection of the cornice, it is rendered so apparently top heavy, as to make it seem to totter, and to threaten the entire destruction of the pile from its tumbling down. The whole entablature, when it is regularly stretched from column to column, in one continued mass, we have already seen, has a necessary tendency to give strength to the pile, and may therefore be deemed a proper ornament. But, when this real use of it is forgot, and, from a blind attachment to ancient forms, its mouldings are retained, while the object itself is minced into pieces that have no connection with each other, it is impossible for me to form an idea of any thing that can be more absurd, or that of course can be in a falser taste. The vegetable birds

of our ancestors I consider as infinitely less ridiculous than this is.

The structure, however, of which we treat, is, notwithstanding this *apparent* weakness, sufficiently strong for its size. The art of phineering is well calculated to promote deceptions of this kind; and the artist who constructed it knew the principles of mechanics too well, not to give it all the strength that the nature of the materials he employed was susceptible of. The columns, instead of being disjoined from the architrave, as they seem to be, are no doubt there continued of one piece, and only altered in form by a few mouldings painted on it. They are, no doubt, also continued upwards till they join a straight beam, running across, over the top of the arches, which, though concealed, answers in effect the same purpose with the original architrave, on which other beams rest that form the roof, on principles that have been already explained.—The structure, therefore, though in its disguised state it does appear to be weak and insufficient, when it is laid open is seen to be strong enough. I complain not, therefore, of its absolute weakness, but I doubt of the propriety of calling it a building erected in a good taste; on this subject, however, I pretend not to decide, being perfectly ready to admit that every other person hath as good a right as myself to judge for himself in this case.

I may be allowed, however, to beg the reader's indulgence a little longer, till I conduct him to another structure, at no great distance from Walbrook, that is built in a different stile of architecture, and shall leave him, after seeing both, to judge freely for himself, which of them he should prefer as objects of elegance and good taste. The building I here allude to is the Temple church in the Strand. This is a small chappel in the Gothic stile, that, like the former, might, if viewed as a picture, be called a *cabinet piece*. Its dimensions, of course, preclude the possibility of its ever

being considered as an object of grandeur; nor does the architect seem to have once thought of exciting that idea here. Neatness, lightness, and delicacy are here alone attempted;—and if others are struck with the same sensations I felt, when I was by chance led into that chappel to shun a shower as I passed, they will readily admit that the artist has effected his aim in the happiest manner.

In this structure no internal isolated columns are admitted; (in this case, as well as the former, the reader will observe that these remarks refer to the interior alone of both structures). They were here unnecessary, as the arches springing from the sides alone were altogether sufficient to support the whole roof; they are therefore here very properly omitted, as only tending to confine the area without cause.

Pillars, however, to serve as a basis for the arches that support the roof, and to break the plain uniformity of the wall, are carried up from the ground, moulded into a delicate form, in a manner peculiar to this stile of architecture, but which is here more elegantly executed than in almost any structure of the kind I have seen. At a proper height these columns are bound by a slender fillet, that serves metely to define the height; but not to interrupt the continuity. Above that the ribs, which had hitherto stood perpendicular and parallel to each other, begin beautifully to divaricate, and to spread gradually wider, in the form of arches, in all directions, till they meet with similar ribs, springing from the other columns, that in a natural and easy manner, peculiar to this stile of architecture, (that must have been seen by every person, and which it is unnecessary here to describe,) forms the arch of the roof. In this structure the walls are plain, or very little ornamented, and the roof entirely plain, unless where marked by the ribs of the arches, which are finished with a delicacy of execution that exceeds any idea I could have formed on this head. The windows

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too are large, the tracery in them fine, and the whole structure has such an air of lightness, elegance, and propriety, as made me consider it as a model of chasteness of taste for a building of the size and kind that this is. I forbear, however, to enlarge on this subject; being perfectly satisfied with having pointed out these two structures to the notice of my readers, that those who are inclined to make the experiment may have it in their power to compare them with each other, and to judge for themselves. I have only further to add on this head, that the *first* is spoken of throughout all Europe, as one of the most perfect models of elegance in architecture, and that the *last* is never once mentioned as deserving any kind of notice; so that a man may have lived in London fifty years, among men of taste for the fine arts, without having ever heard it once named in conversation.

It is by no means my intention here to engage in a studied panegyric on the Gothic stile of architecture, or to defend every peculiarity adopted in it as excellent. In every human work there are imperfections; and in all those arts where fancy has room to be exercised, caprice and whim will come in for their share; and no doubt they were exercised by these artists at times, as by others. Writhed and contorted columns have been by some of these artists deemed elegant, as well as by Michael Angelo and Raphael Urban. Incongruities of this nature have even been adopted at times by men of the soundest understanding*; and many other particulars are, no doubt, discoverable among the works of

* Can any idea, for example, be more absurd than that of building a bridge for the purpose of rearing a town upon it, when there was plenty of solid ground beside it for the purpose of rearing houses for every purpose that could be wanted? Yet even Palladio himself, though otherwise a man of sound sense, adopted this chimerical notion with eagerness, and considered it as one of the most sublime conceptions that had been devised by man.—Need I say more concerning the fallibility of human wisdom?

those who reared Gothic structures, as well as those who adopted other modes of architecture, which few persons will say are elegant, and all will condemn as useless. All I wish to insinuate is, that should the merits of the most perfect works in this stile of architecture, be scanned without prejudice, it would certainly be found not to deserve that indiscriminate abuse with which it has been generally loaded. In respect to strength, and convenience for the purposes it was meant to serve, it is, without any doubt, justly entitled to the highest applause; and even in respect to elegance and beauty, it will perhaps be also found that the most perfect specimens of it may, for particular purposes, vie with those of any other mode of architecture that ever hath been devised.

I am aware of the general clamour that has been raised against the Gothic stile of architecture, because of its being said to be loaded with a multiplicity of ornaments which distract the eye; and destroy that simplicity which is now, perhaps justly, thought to constitute a very essential part of the beauty of any building. But though I have heard the objection repeatedly urged, I cannot be brought to admit that it is well founded. On particular occasions, this no doubt has been the case. And who will deny that the same objection may be urged against particular edifices in every stile of architecture? But this is certainly an *adjunct* only, and by no means an *essential* of this art. Even the external appearance of these structures is certainly not necessarily affected by this peculiarity; for the great parts of these works are bold and striking objects, naturally susceptible of much regularity, that if left plain, which they have often been, where the taste of the artist allowed him to perceive this kind of beauty, produce a great and striking effect. As instances of this majestic simplicity, and, as we would now call it, elegant plainness, I shall mention the east front of York minster, and the outside of the chapter-house there, which clear-

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ly prove, that if this plainness was not at all times follow-
ed, it was owing to the taste of the times, and not to
any inherent defect of the stile of architecture, which,
perhaps, more easily admitted of this plain appearance,
without degenerating into meanness, than any other;
and the inside of the Temple church, and of a great
many others, clearly show that this kind of elegance
was sometimes prized, and attainable with the utmost
facility †.

In these hasty sketches, however, I never meant to
enter into particulars. All I aimed at was to direct
the attention of lovers of the fine arts towards these
fabrics, in order to investigate fairly their beauties
and defects. With this view, I cannot help thinking
that plans, elevations, and sections of the principal
structures of this kind in Europe, with well engraved
geometrical drawings of the particular members of each
part, and their ornaments, were carefully executed
and published, as has been done with the remains of
Grecian structures, it would open a wide field for re-
flections in this line, and display beauties in ar-
chitecture, which, when fully understood, would
come to improve it as a science, and exalt it to a still
higher degree than it has yet attained as an elegant art.

But while I thus endeavour to vindicate that stile of
Gothic architecture which has been employed in the
construction of churches, from the unmerited abuse
with which it has too long been indiscriminately loaded,
and to point out some defects in particular structures in

† I do not perhaps know a Gothic fabric that is loaded with a great-
er profusion of heavy and unmeaning ornaments than the inside of the
dome of the famous Pantheon at Rome, or the servile, though diminutive
copy of that part of the structure in the church of St. Stephen's,
Walbrook. But though these ornaments are entirely useless, and ap-
pear to our taste at present heavy and incongruous, it does not follow
that they might not have been executed quite plain, or with ornaments in
a very different stile, if the artists had so inclined. The defect then, if
such it be, is to be attributed to the unskillfulness of the artists, not to the
defect of the art itself.

the Grecian stile; let it not be imagined that I mean, in the smallest degree, to bring any imputation on the true principles of Grecian architecture considered as an object of taste. Nothing could be farther from my intention. The chaste remains of some ancient structures of this kind, as far as I am able to judge, display an elegance, a simplicity, a grandeur, a sublimity, even in their external appearance, that I am inclined to believe are unrivalled by any other structures that ever have been erected on this globe. It is not the principles of this stile of architecture of which I complain, but the misapplication of these principles, and the corruptions that time, and a change of circumstances, have introduced. With what astonishment and contempt would an artist of the days of Pericles, could he now look up from the grave, behold the puerile bizarreries of many boasted modern structures? It would be like Hercules looking down on the feeble attempts of children to adorn themselves in his armour, and wield his massy club.

S. A.

Laws oppressive to the Highlands of Scotland,

To the Editor of the Bee.

SIR,

THERE is not a more trite phrase in the English language than "Our excellent Constitution." It is to be hoped that its admirers do not wish us to judge of it by the administration of the executive departments of government. A candid review of the conduct of our rulers must, at any period of our annals, have been sufficient to calm the fervour of panegyric: yet, whenever a person ventures to censure on this subject, he is certain to be traduced as a personal enemy to the popular minister of the day. There was a time when it

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1791.

OPPRESSIVE LAWS.

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was a sort of petty treason to question the virtues and abilities of Lord North; Mr Burke and the Man of the People were also for many years considered by a numerous party as at once incorruptible and infallible. At this time Mr Pitt is an object of this sort of frivolous veneration, and when his term of popularity has expired, he will no doubt become, in his turn, the general topic of invective and reproach.

In the close of my last letter I expressed myself somewhat strongly with respect to the situation of the inhabitants in the Highlands and the western islands of Scotland. Instead of general declamation I shall now send you a few extracts from the book I mentioned in the end of my last letter; and to quiet the minds of the admirers of Mr Pitt, I shall only premise, that the whole abuses complained of existed long before the commencement of his ministry, and consequently can reflect no personal or peculiar censure upon him. We have ourselves only to blame for the continuance of such abuses. And if the natives of North Britain possessed the ordinary spirit of men, it is impossible that they could exist for a year longer.

" In the western islands of Scotland, the expence of the customhouse officer to discharge a cargo of coals amounts, in many cases, to more than four times the duty on the coals, and if the cargo be small, it will sometimes be more than double the prime cost of the coals†.

" On the subject of collecting taxes with rigour in Scotland, the following fact will speak for itself. In July 1784, when I was at Greenock, a great ferment was excited in that place by the arrival of an excise officer, charged with strict orders to levy from each inhabitant, who had a *kail yard*, (I use the expression of the country,) one guinea a year, as gardener-tax, for

† An Account of the present state of the Hebrides and Western Coasts of Scotland, Introduction p. 32.

all the years that had elapsed since the tax upon male servants has been established.

" This tax the people refused to pay; alledging, in the first place, that most of their yards were not worth half the annual sum charged for them, and, in the next place, that none of the persons kept a gardener for working them, and that most of the owners did not even employ a day labourer for that purpose; the poor people going out themselves to dig and clean their little spots of garden ground by way of recreation and amusement in the evenings, and hours of relaxation from labour. The excise officer could find no argument to plead in bar of these; but showed them that his order was peremptory to exact it;—they as peremptorily refused to pay it.—How the affair ended I cannot tell; but afterwards, when I was at Campbleton, the same officer arrived on the same errand, and met with the same success*.

" A man in Skye, who had got a load of bonded salt, used the whole in curing fish, except *five bushels* only; but before he could recover his bond, he found himself obliged to hire a boat and send these five bushels to Oban, which cost him upwards of *five pounds* expences†.

" One would imagine that if a man paid the duty for his salt, he might afterwards do with it what he pleased; but this, I find, is not the case. Last season, (1784,) a vessel was fitted out in haste at Aberdeen, to catch herrings that were then on the coast: but as the owners of that vessel had no duty-free salt, they were obliged to purchase salt that had already paid the duty; but before they were allowed to carry one ounce of this salt to sea, they were further obliged to give bond for it in the same form as if it had been duty-free salt‡.

" Again, in the year 1783, Mr James McDonald, in Portree in Skye, purchased from Leith a quantity of

* Ibid. p. 76.

† Ibid. Report, p. 40.

‡ Ibid. pages 41 and 42 of Report.

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OPPRESSIVE LAWS.

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salt which had paid duty, and shipped it by permit on board a vessel for Portree. It was there regularly landed, and a custom-house certificate returned for the same. With this salt he intended to cure fish, when he could catch them in those seas, but not having found an opportunity of using it in the year 1784, he fitted out, at his own expence, this season, (1785,) a small sloop to prosecute the fisheries. On board that sloop he put some part of this salt, and the permit along with it. A revenue cutter fell in with his vessel, and seized vessel and salt, provisions and all together †.

“ Among other particulars the following case will show to what an unnecessary expence the owners of busses are subjected:—Many of the hands that are employed in the buss fishery are natives of the west coast and isles. Before they can enter on board a buss they must go to Greenock, Rothsay, or Campbleton, and there wait till they be engaged and mustered; if at Greenock or Rothsay, they must proceed to Campbleton to be rendezvoused ‡, where they may be detained on an average about a week or ten days before they can beat round the Mull of Cantyre; from thence to the fishing lochs may be on an average a voyage of a fortnight. Thus, after a month or six weeks time idly spent, the fisherman comes to the very spot from whence he set out. The same waste of time is made on his return, for which he must be indemnified by superior wages, not to mention provisions, spent in idle voyages §.”

It appears, that in spite of all this severity, the salt-duty is very imperfectly collected.—“ The extent of the trade in smuggled salt on these coasts may be guessed at from the following fact:—A single person in one of the islands owned, that in one year, he himself

† A trifling alteration in the law has taken place in regard to this particular since the above was written. EDIT.

‡ Ibid. pages 44 and 45, Report. § Ibid. p. 41 and 42.

imported into that island no less than nine hundred and seventy tons, which is equal to thirty-eight thousand eight hundred and eighty bushels. There were several other persons who followed the same trade in that island besides himself †."

As this letter has extended to a greater length than I expected, I shall beg leave to conclude this subject at some future opportunity.

Lifmore,
Sept. 25th, 1791.

POCOCURANTE.

Detached Observations.

Misfortunes have their seeds; the wise man prevents their birth. To this end the most minute beginnings must be watched: for what at first appears to be but slight, becomes, by little and little, sensible and considerable. Thus water, which distils from mount Tai, wears, in time, over the stone a passage, which you would think wrought with a chissel. A cord drawn to and fro over a board many times in the same place at length divides it into two pieces, as if done with a saw. In fine, yonder tree, which is now ten feet in circumference, was raised from a very small seedling; when it was young and tender, it was in all respects flexible, and might have been easily plucked up. At present what a difference! It is the same with regard to Evil.

See that moth, which flies incessantly round the candle; it is consumed!—Man of Pleasure behold thy own image.

† Report, p. 47.

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1791.

NEW CORN ACT.

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Abstract of the Corn Act.

[The new corn law is so voluminous, and contains so many clauses, (occupying in all no less than 84 folio pages of print,) as to render it a matter of great difficulty for any one to comprehend the meaning of the whole of its clauses, I have therefore, with a view to save the reader of the Bee from this trouble, got the whole arranged and methodised in the following abstract, throwing all the clauses that relate to any one article together, under six distinct heads; so that any person, by the help of this Abstract, can satisfy himself fully of any one particular in a few minutes.

The greatest care has been taken that the following abstract should be perfectly correct; and it is believed no errors will be found in it.—Yet where so much confusion prevails, and so many repetitions occur, it is impossible to say that no particular has escaped due notice. If therefore, any person in reading the act with care, shall discover any mistake of such consequence as to be worth remarking, it will be taken kind, if the same be pointed out that they may be corrected *.]

* To prevent mistakes, printers will please to observe that this article is entered in Stationer's Hall.

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*Abstract of an Act of Parliament 31st year of Geo. III.
intituled,*

"AN act for regulating the importation and exportation of corn, and the payment of the duty on foreign corn imported, and of the bounty on British corn exported."

This act commences to be in force on the 15th of November 1791.

The following laws are repealed :

1st James II. chap. 19 ; 1st William and Mary, chap. 12 ; 5 Geo. II. chap. 12 ; 10 Geo. III. chap. 39 ; 13 Geo. III. chap. 43 ; 21 Geo. III. chap. 50 ; and 29 Geo. III. chap. 58.—Also all clauses of other acts of parliament relating to the importation and exportation of corn, flour, meal, or bread, except what relates to the exportation of malt.—Also is repealed, so much of 15 Charles II. chap. 7, as prohibits the buying and warehousing of corn to sell again.

The prices at which corn may or may not be imported or exported, and the duties and bounties that are payable thereon, are shown in the following Table.

† In what relates to importation the same prices as govern barley govern Indian corn and maize.
§ This bill is said to consist of 128 l. Scotch Troy, or 140 lb. Avoirdupois, which is an error, for 128 l. of the former are equal to 139 22-100ths lb. of the latter.
‡ Peter is wrong spelled in the law: it should be Peter.

Nov. 9,

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ng Table.

T A B L E.

	WHEAT.				RYE.				Buckley, Beans, or Beans.				OATS.			
	Grain Flour	Meal	Pelfric	Grain Meal	Grain Meal	Grain Meal	Grain Meal	Grain Meal	Grain Meal	Grain Meal	Grain Meal	Grain Meal	Grain Meal	Grain Meal	Grain Meal	Grain Meal
	p. qr.	p. cwt.	p. cwt.	p. qr.	p. qr.	p. cwt.	p. cwt.	p. qr.	p. cwt.	p. cwt.	p. qr.	p. cwt.	p. qr.	p. cwt.	p. qr.	p. cwt.
When the prices are under Bounties are payable on exportation, (I) of	44 0	1 6	1 3	1 6	28 0	0 9	—	22 0	2 6	0 10	2 6	14 0	1 0	—	—	—
When the prices are at or above	5 0	1 6	1 3	1 6	3 0	0 9	—	2 6	0 10	2 6	14 0	1 0	—	—	—	—
No exportation is allowed, (II)	46 0	—	—	—	30 0	—	—	23 0	—	—	—	15 0	—	—	—	—
When the prices are under	50 0	—	—	—	34 0	—	—	35 0	—	—	—	17 0	16 0	—	—	—
Duty on importation, called high duty, (III) is,	24 3	6 6	6 6	—	22 0	—	—	22 0	—	—	—	6 7	8 0	—	—	—
When the prices are at or above	50 0	—	—	—	34 0	—	—	35 0	—	—	—	17 0	16 0	—	—	—
Duty on importation, called 1 lb low duty, is	2 6	1 6	1 6	—	1 6	—	—	1 3	—	—	—	1 0	1 0	—	—	—
When the prices are at or above	54 0	—	—	—	37 0	—	—	37 0	—	—	—	18 0	17 0	—	—	—
Duty on importation, called 2d low duty, is	0 6	1 0	1 0	—	0 3	—	—	0 3	—	—	—	0 2	0 6	—	—	—
When the prices are at or above	48 0	—	—	—	32 0	—	—	32 0	—	—	—	16 0	15 0	—	—	—
Duty called high duty, is	24 3	6 6	6 6	—	22 0	—	—	22 0	—	—	—	6 7	8 0	—	—	—
When the prices are at or above	48 0	—	—	—	32 0	—	—	32 0	—	—	—	16 0	15 0	—	—	—
Duty called 1 lb low duty, is	2 6	1 6	1 6	—	1 6	—	—	1 3	—	—	—	1 0	1 0	—	—	—
When the prices are at or above	52 0	—	—	—	35 0	—	—	35 0	—	—	—	17 0	16 0	—	—	—
Duty called 2d low duty, is	0 6	1 0	1 0	—	0 3	—	—	0 3	—	—	—	0 2	0 6	—	—	—

N. B. The Figures refer to the Regulations and Regulations in the sequel.

† In what relates to importation the farm prices as govern barley govern Indian corn and maize.

‡ Decr is wrong spelled in the law; it should be Dear.

§ This bill is said to contain 138 lb. Scotch, Troy, or 140 lb. Avoirdupois, which is an error, for 138 lb. of the former are equal to 139 22-100ths lb. of the latter.

I.

*Regulations concerning the Exportation of Grain, &c.-on
Bounty.*

§ 1. **A**T entry of *biscuit* for exportation, the exporter must make oath at the custom-house that it was made of *British wheat*.

§ 2. No bounty to be given on a quantity of *biscuit* less than *two tons*, over one hundred weight for each seaman navigating the ship; that quantity being allowed for ships stores.

§ 3. The quantity of *biscuit* allowed for ships stores to be included in the entry for exportation, and deducted therefrom by the searching officer.

§ 4. At exportation of corn, bond must be given jointly by the exporter, the shipmaster, and a third person approved of by the collector and comptroller, in treble the value of the grain, that same shall not be landed within this kingdom, nor any of the islands *Man, Guernsey, Jersey, Alderney, and Sark*. This bond to be discharged on certificates being produced, within specified dates, proportioned to the distance, of the grain having been landed; or on proof to the satisfaction of the commissioners of the customs being adduced, that same was taken or lost at sea.

§ 5. Before bounty on grain exported can be received the following are necessary:

Oath of the exporter, or of his servant, that it was actually shipped, and of British growth.

Oath of the captain and owner of the ship that she is British-built, and owned and navigated according to law.

Oath of the exporter that the grain, &c. was duly exported.

If malt, certificate of the officer of excise that the malt had been so malted as to entitle it to bounty, af-

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ter the rate of thirty quarters of malt to twenty quarters of barley.

These oaths to be administered by the collectors and comptrollers of the customs.

§ 6. If a vessel be entered for exportation she may complete her loading, if done within 20 days of entry, on the same terms as were in effect at entry, though in the mean time the prices should alter.

II.

Articles concerning the Prohibition of Grain, &c. from being exported.

§ 1. On corn, &c. being exported contrary to this law it is liable to forfeiture, and the exporter to a penalty of 20s. per bushel of grain and meal, and 1s. per cwt. of biscuit; and the vessel is subject to seizure, unless from the smallness of the quantity or otherwise the master's ignorance can be evinced.

§ 2. Corn, &c. may at any time be shipped in quantities sufficient for the sustenance of the crew of the ship and animals on board; likewise for victualling king's ships, forts, or garrisons, and to places and in quantities specified in a table which will be inserted at the end of this paper.

§ 3. Beans may be exported to *British forts and factories in Africa*, or for the use of *British ships in the African trade*, which have been usually supplied therewith from Britain.

§ 4. Grain may be exported to Ireland at any time when the ports in that kingdom are shut against exportation, which is to be ascertained by the announcement in the Gazette.—Bonds and oaths as usual being requisite.

§ 5. Grain in warehouses, under the joint custody of the king's officers and the proprietor may at any time be exported.

III.

Articles concerning the Importation of Corn, &c.

§ 1. No ground corn, except *wheat flour, wheat meal, and oat-meal*, nor any *malt* to be imported, under forfeiture of it and the ship.

§ 2. Grain may, at importation, be landed at any port where there is a custom-house, or of which the King in Council shall approve, without payment of duty, and lodged in a warehouse provided by the proprietor, of which the King's officers are to keep one key and the proprietor another; and the proprietor shall have access to it, for the sake of taking care of it, when he finds it needful: On such occasions, an officer of the customs, paid by the King, shall always attend.

§ 3. Corn warehoused as above may be taken out of the warehouse without payment of any thing, and exported, or transported to any port where such grain is importable on low duties, *there* paying such duties; bond being given, with cautionry in treble the value, that it shall be so exported or transported.

§ 4. Corn warehoused as above may at any time be taken out of custody, on payment of the duties at the time payable on such grain, if imported; and *in addition thereto*, the duties specified in the table, as *first low duties*; the corn, in such case, being measured and delivered out of the warehouse, and account taken in like manner as if taken out of a ship at importation.

§ 5. If a ship arrive at a port where high duties are payable, she may proceed to one where low duties are.

§ 6. Corn, &c. may at any time, be put into lighters at Grangemouth, or in the Clyde, to be carried by the Glasgow Canal, or river Clyde, to any port where low duties are payable, entry and report thereof being previously made at the port where it arrived, and bond with cautionary given in, treble the amount of the *high duties* on such grain, and 40 shillings *per* boll of *oat meal*, that it shall be delivered at the port of destination, (no fee or stamp-duty being chargeable on said

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bond.) Of all which the collector and comptroller shall give a certificate and a warrant to accompany the grain. The transshipment must be completed within six days after the arrival, and the bond must be discharged *per* certificate from the officer at the landing port within two months of the date thereof.

IV.

Articles relating to the importation of grain, &c. from Ireland, and the British Colonies in America.

§ 1. Corn, &c. to be importable from Ireland on the terms mentioned in the table, only, if there shall be a law in Ireland permitting British corn to be imported there on same terms; and that to take place three months after same shall have been announced in the Gazette.

§ 2. On corn, &c. being imported from Ireland, or the British Colonies in America on the terms specified in the table: the captain of the ship must bring along with him a certificate from the officer of the customs at the port of shipping, expressing the quantity on board, and in the bills of loading, and the names of the exporter, and of the person making oath that the grain was of the growth of the country whence exported, to which certificates the shipmaster must swear.

V.

Regulations concerning the Transportation of Grain from one Part of the Kingdom to another.

§ 1. No corn, &c. to be transported from a port where such corn is not exportable to one where it is exportable, under forfeiture.

§ 2. When corn, &c. is transported coastwise from a port where exportation is not allowed, there shall, in addition to the usual coast-bond on goods, be one given, that same shall not be landed at any British port whence it may at that time be exported.

§ 3. Corn, &c. may be landed at a port where exportation is allowed, if at the shipping thereof the exportation was prohibited, at the port where it was to be

landed, though the prices should, in the mean time, have fallen there so as to admit of exportation.

VI.

General Regulations, and those regarding the ascertaining of the Prices for the Purposes of this Act, &c.

§ 1. The maritime parts of *England* * are divided into the following districts :

1. London, Essex, Kent and Suffex.
2. Counties of Suffolk and Cambridge.
3. Norfolk.
4. Lincolnshire, East and North Riding of Yorkshire, and town and county of Kingston upon Hull.
5. Counties of Durham and Northumberland, and town of Berwick upon Tweed.
6. Counties of Cumberland and Westmoreland.
7. Counties of Lancashire and Cheshire.
8. Counties of Flint, Denbigh, Anglesea, Carnarvon and Marioneth.
9. Counties of Cardigan, Pembroke, Carmarthen, and Glamorgan.
10. Counties Gloucester, Sommerfet, and Monmouth, and city and county of Bristol.
11. Counties of Devon and Cornwall.
12. Counties of Dorset and Hants.

Scotland is divided into the following Districts.

13. Counties of Fife, Kinross, Clackmannan, Stirling, Linlithgow, Edinburgh, Haddington, Berwick, Roxburgh, Selkirk and Peebles.
14. Counties of Dumfries, Wigton and Ayr, and Stewartry of Kirkcudbright.
15. Counties of Argyle, Dumbarton, Lanark, Renfrew and Bute, and the western ports, and isles of Invernessshire, and Rossshire.

* Should be *England and Wales*.

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16. The remains of the counties of Ross and Inverness, and counties of Orkney, Shetland, Caithness, Sutherland, Cromarty, Nairn, Elgin, Banff, Aberdeen, Kincardine, Forfar, and Perth,

In all parts of each of these districts the importation, exportation, &c. is to be the same.

2. The Lords of the Treasury to appoint a person to be *receiver of corn returns*, who is to take suitable oaths. The proprietors of corn exchange, or failing them, the lord mayor and aldermen of London are to appoint a person, not a corn dealer or factor, to be *inspector of corn returns*, and if need be, a temporary *deputy inspector of corn returns* for London, who are to take suitable oaths, and give security for their good behaviour.

And the justice of the peace, or lord mayors of the towns forming a county of themselves, are to appoint a similar *inspector of corn returns* in each of the principal towns (enumerated in the act) of the aforementioned districts. The functions of which offices are explained in the sequel.

§ 3. Every corn dealer and factor in the towns where there are inspectors of corn returns, must, under a penalty, sign a written declaration, that he shall transmit weekly to the inspector of corn returns, an account of all the British corn and oat meal sold by him, mentioning the prices and the buyers. These returns are to be recorded by the inspectors, but kept private from every one except the receiver of the corn returns, or by a written order from the mayor, aldermen of London, and towns forming a county of themselves, or justices of peace of other counties. The inspector of corn returns is to transmit same weekly to the receiver of corn returns, who shall forthwith make up therefrom, an account of the average prices of grain, &c. for each district, and transmit same to the collectors of customs in all the sea port towns, by

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which they are to regulate the *exportation* of corn and the bounty.

The inspectors and receiver of corn returns to make up in like manner within seven days after the 15th day of November, 15th February, 15th May, and 15th August every year, an account of the average prices for the six preceding weeks. Oats and oat meal excepted, *in London*, the average price of these in that city, and the rest of that district being to be taken from the returns of the *twelve* preceding weeks. Which account the receiver of returns is to transmit to the custom-houses to regulate the import till the next quarter day.

§ 4. All grain brought into the Thames eastward of London bridge, and sold, and delivered, is to be subjected to a duty, British, of 1d *per* last of 10 qrs.—on Foreign, of 2d *per* do. Which duty is to be collected by the inspector of corn returns; and is to be applied as follows:

1. Salaries of the inspector and occasional deputy inspectors of corn returns, together not below 100l. nor above 200l. *per* annum.
2. Expence of inspectors chamber or office.
3. Balance to be paid into the customs.

The lord mayor and aldermen to examine the inspector of corn returns's accounts, and enforce payment of said duty once a quarter.

§ 5. The sheriff depute of each county in Scotland shall summon, on the 15th of Sept. 1791, and on the 15th of every succeeding month, or within three days thereof, a jury of not more than 7, or less than 5, good inhabitants of the county, not dealers or factors in corn to sell again, of which jury two to be freeholders, or commissioners of supply, two farmers of land, and the remainder reputable inhabitants of some town in the county.

These are to make up, from the evidence of persons skilled in the prices of corn, summoned for that pur-

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pose by the sheriff-depute, a state of the prices of grain and oatmeal, for each of the four weeks preceding, by the measures in use in the county. Same account, and a conversion into the price *per* Winchester bushel, to be transmitted by the sheriff-depute to the receiver of corn returns at London.

Said proof to be taken for Lanark at Glasgow; for Paisley at Renfrew; for Caithness at Thurso, and the county town of each other county.

The depositions of the persons furnishing the evidence to the juries to be recorded by the sheriff clerk, and given to any person demanding them, on paying extracting fees.

The receiver of corn returns to enter these in record, compute the average price in each district ten days after the 15th of November, and every succeeding month, and transmit same forthwith to the customhouses in each district in Scotland, by which the *Exportation Bounties* shall be regulated, till next such account shall be received.

The receiver of corn returns to make up, in like manner, within ten days after 15th November, 15th February, 15th May, and 15th August, each year, an account of the average prices in each district in Scotland, for the preceding six weeks, to be transmitted in like manner as the monthly accounts to the customhouses, by which the *Importation* and *Duties* are to be governed.

§ 6. The average prices are, for the sake of information, to be taken in the inland counties of England, (enumerated in the act,) nearly in the same manner as the maritime counties. (See § 3.) These to be transmitted to the receiver of the corn returns, who shall publish them, as well as the average prices of the maritime districts, in the Gazette, in the manner that the Lords of Council shall direct.

§ 7. If returns should not be made from all the counties in each district, those from two-thirds of the counties in each shall be sufficient for forming the regulat-

ing average: if the returns should not come from two-thirds of the counties of each district, the average shall be struck from the prices of the whole kingdom.

§ 8. If the average prices of the whole kingdom be at any time when the parliament is not sitting, higher than to permit importation on the low duties, from places not colonies, the King in Council may prohibit for a limited time all exportation, and permit a general importation on the lowest duties payable at that time in any part of the kingdom, and recal such prohibition or permission, if circumstances induce him thereto; but if such importation be allowed, it must remain in force for three months after the date of the order; and such prohibition shall not extend to grain warehoused.

§ 9. The salaries of the inspectors of corn returns in England are to be paid quarterly, out of the county rates; and in such towns as are counties of themselves, out of the poor's rates, after the rate of 5s. for each return in the maritime towns, and 2s. in the inland towns, or more, if the mayor or justices think them, on account of their trouble, deserving of it.

In Scotland, sheriff-deputes to receive out of the county cess 20s. for each monthly return, to defray charges.

All these to be repaid annually by the receiver general, out of the duties arising from corn.

§ 10. All corn to be measured and computed by the Winchester bushel, being 1-8th of a quarter*, and a standard to be kept in each town from which returns are to be made. If corn be sold by weight, the following quantities shall be considered equal to a bushel:

Wheat,	-	-	57	} lb. Avoirdupoise.
Rye,	-	-	55	
Barley,	-	-	49	
Bear, or Bigg,	-	-	42	
Oats,	-	-	38	

* This bushel contains 2,150 cubical inches, and 42-100ths parts of an inch. [This is not mentioned in the act.]

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And in computation, the following quantities of *ground corn* shall be considered equal to a bushel:

Wheat-meal, - -	56	} lb. Avoirdupoise.
Wheat-flour, - -	45	
Rye-meal, - -	53	
Barley-meal, - -	48	
Bear-meal, - -	41	
Oat-meal, - -	22	

§ 11. Wheat flour that does not pass through a cloth, commonly called a *fourteen shilling cloth*, to be considered as *wheat meal*.

§ 12. The inspectors of corn returns are to make a comparison betwixt the measure in use in each county and Winchester measure, hang same up in some public place in town, and transmit it to the receiver of corn returns.

§ 13. All former laws for securing the revenue, not particularly altered by this, not to be affected thereby.

§ 14. No fee to be taken for oaths administered according to this law.

§ 15. Actions for penalties incurred by virtue of this act are to be sued for in any of the Courts of Record at Westminster, or in the Court of Exchequer at Edinburgh respectively, in the same manner as penalties for offences against other laws respecting the revenue, except penalties incurred by corn dealers or factors, and inspectors of returns, which are to be sued for before the justices of peace of the county.

§ 16. All actions brought against any person by virtue of this act, for any thing done, must be brought within three months of the thing done, and the action laid within the county. And if the verdict be given for the defendant, or the plaintiff discontinue the action, the defendant to have treble costs.

N. B. There are several subordinate regulations, of little importance to the public; and some provisions for incidents previous to the 15th Nov. 1791, which I have passed over as not of consequence enough to take up more room with them.

On the salutary Effects of Manufactures.

A simple scene ! yet hence Britannia sees
 Her solid grandeur rise : hence she commands
 Th' exalted stores of every brighter clime,
 The treasures of the sun without his rage :
 Hence, fervent all, with culture, toil, and arts,
 Wide glows her land : her dreadful thunder hence
 Rides o'er the waves sublime,
 Hence ! rules the circling deep, and awes the world

THOMSON.

To the Editor of the Bee.

SIR,

I READ with very unpleasant sensations *Jaques'* letter on agriculture, vol. 2d, page 141, in which he says, "Manufactures lay a certain foundation for future misery and wretchedness by the introduction of vice under every form," and particularizes cotton mills.—When I read that paper, I could say nothing on this subject; but was agreeably surprised, lately, in seeing Lanark cotton mills, as I had been made to expect to see something in the circumstances of the people employed in manufactures, which introduced vice among them in a peculiar degree.

The advantages resulting to a nation from manufactures are many, and might easily be enlarged upon; but that I may not draw this paper to too great a length, I shall briefly state a few facts which I have lately come to the knowledge of, introducing them with the advantages derived from them.

1st, The public are relieved from a burden, which if not quickly alleviated, behoved, in a short time, to become a very great incumbrance, viz. the maintenance and education of destitute children.

Upwards of 130 children have gone from Edinburgh charity work-house, and about 40 from St. Cuthbert's to Lanark mills, and about 40 from Edinburgh charity work-house to Stanley, within these 12 months.

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1791.

ON MANUFACTURES.

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2d, Many, who, if they had not been dependent on their respective parishes, would, at best, have been in a very straitened and miserable situation, are brought into easy and comfortable circumstances. I saw some who came from the north of Scotland and went to Lanark mills sometime ago in a dirty and tattered condition, dressed in clean and neat clothes; and their robust appearance and chearful countenances bespoke the plenty they enjoy.

3d, Many who would have been exposed to all the evil effects of idleness, are enured to habits of industry by such manufactures, and thus, those who would have been not only useless but hurtful members of society, do both support themselves, and furnish their quota to the general welfare. I saw authority maintained strictly, which is absolutely necessary where there is such a multitude, yet without severity: and obedience was yielded with an alacrity and chearfulness, which indicated that they who were under authority were pleased with their situation.

4th, Many are instructed by this means who otherwise, it is to be feared, would have been immerged in ignorance by their parents being unable to instruct them, and as unable to pay for their instruction, or perhaps, by distance, being deprived of the opportunity of attending school. The proprietor of Lanark Mills pays two teachers for instructing such children as are boarded with him; and if the children of such people about the work as are poor, or have large families, are not taught *gratis*, (of which I am uncertain) they have the means of instruction near them, and for a low fee.

And as an encouragement to application, and a stimulus to emulation, premiums are given to such as have made the greatest proficiency.

It may perhaps be thought that matters are represented too favourably here; but I think what follows is a corroboration of all that is said. Such good ac-

counts had come from the children who went to Lanark from Edinburgh work-house the end of last year and beginning of this, of the happiness of their situation; that those who went away this month left Edinburgh with the greatest cheerfulness.

These few facts convince me that *Jaques* must be mistaken as to what he asserts, or that Lanark mills are much better conducted than any he has seen or heard of. If this, with other manufactures, has no direct tendency to meliorate the heart, as *Jaques* asserts agriculture has, sure I am, it of itself, has no direct tendency to viciate it. That profligacy will appear in all such places I have no doubt; but this proceeds from the great source of all the misery of man, the natural depravity of his heart *. Where men are most numerous, their depravity is most conspicuous. This, I think, proves that the human mind only waits an opportunity to discover itself; and consequently that, if the husbandman is apparently less vicious than the manufacturer, it is to be ascribed to his want of opportunity to discover his disposition. This also proves that *Jaques'* argument condemns the state of society in general, no less than the establishment of particular manufactures.

As a well-wisher to agriculture, I wish success to the manufactures of Britain, being persuaded that their success injures that of agriculture, as *Criticus* has concisely and clearly shewn vol. iv. page 101.

INSPECTOR.

* Might not this be as justly attributed to the natural desire that all animals feel to participate in enjoyments which come within their view, and which the situation in life of the bulk of mankind does not enable them honestly to attain? *Edit.*

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POETRY.

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Hospitality and Gratitude. An Allegoric Tale.
By the Rev. J. Tyson.

DARK was the night, and keen the north-east blew,
Whilst desolation 'cross the welkin flew,—
When o'er a plain, unfriended and unknown,
A hapless nymph sought her sad way alone ;
'Wilder'd the journey'd, in a woe-fraught plight,
Till the perceiv'd a taper's twinkling light ;
To the bless'd spot, with mended pace, she bore,
And reach'd fair Hospitality's benignant door.
The nymph, who knew what charms sweet sounds convey,
Sounded her pipe, and artless sung this lay :

“ Ah ! Thou who own'st this mansion,

“ Attend a wand'rer's prayer ;

“ Give—kindly give me refuge

“ From this inclement air.

“ They little know the anguish,

“ (Whom beds of down invite),

“ Of those, who o'er the wild heath

“ Bemoan a winter's night.

“ Tho' hoarse the watch-dog threatens,

“ And loud the owlets scream ;

“ Yet let compassion's radiance

“ Athwart thy bosom beam.

“ So in the hour of peril,

“ When dangers hover near,

“ The God who virtue prizes,

“ Will to thy aid appear.”

Rude was the strain, but such as caught the ear
Of the good dame, who reign'd sole mistress there ;
With pleasing speech she ask'd the nymph her name,
Of whom descended, and from whence she came.
The nymph replied, “ I'm fortune's hapless child,
“ Left unprotected on this dreary wild,

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So oft remov'd, I scarce know whence I came;
 But my heart's good, and Gratitude's my name.
 Won by the down-cast look, the modest grace,
 And passing blushes of her beauteous face;
 "Enter, said Hospitality, this door,
 "Nor know thou grief, nor care, nor anguish more,
 "Here end thy wand'rings, here relieve thy toil,
 "And plant thy virtues in a milder soil;
 "Chear thy meek spirit, and forget thy tale,
 "Take refuge here from each oppressing gale;
 "Forget the wintry waste,—the piercing storm,
 "Alas! ill suited to thy gracious form,—
 "And rest with me—I much to goodness owe,
 "For heavenly blessings lent me here below."
 This said, she stretches out her hand to raise
 The nymph, now melting 'twixt fond love and praise;
 Who thus (untinctur'd by disguise or art)
 Pour'd out the feelings of her grateful heart:
 "May the soft encrease of affection's balm
 "Rejoice your goodness, and my sorrows calm;
 "May mutual love and happiness increase,
 "And all our future hours be hours of peace;
 "Connected thus by every virtuous tie,
 "We'll loving live, and undivided die!"
 Thus to each other bound in sacred love,
 Their mutual helps their sweetest pleasures prove;
 Their cares divided, and their joys the same,
 Confirm their union in "true friendship's" name;
 Thus hand in hand they meekly tread the road
 That leads to purest bliss—the bliss with God!
Thornhill.

On the BUCKS of the Present Day.

STRANGE are the fashions that prevail;
 One wears a *queue*, one docks his tail;
 And yet in both alike we find
 A lamentable want of mind.

The following Lines are' extracted from an Old Scottish Poem which is very scarce, and seems to have eluded the research of the most industrious collectors. It is entitled,
"Ane Treatise, callit the Court of Venus, deuidit into four Buikis, newlie compylit be John Rolland in Dalkeith. Im-printit at Edinburgh be John Ros, M.D.LXXV. Cum Privilegio regali."

Laus Veneris.

Our fra the splene with cordiall amouris,
 Great salusingis, with greitings full of gloir:
 Laude, reverence, helth, vertew, and honouris,
 With all havingis that may ane corps decoir,
 To the, Venus, I rander evermoir.
 And nocht caufles: with superabundant
 Mirth, melodie, thow dois my heart refloir,
 As invincent victour, and triumphant.

For to remane into memoriall
 Thy name and fame in chronick and scriptour,
 I fall gar prent to keip perpetuall,
 As is the adis of the greit conquerour.
 O Venus Quene, of all Quenes the flour,
 Adres my spreit, that I may say sumthing,
 Within this gairth to thy laude and honour,
 The to salute, and thy sone Cupid King.

My spreitis thay feir, for dreid my hart dois quaik,
 My tounge trimblis half in ane extasie,
 Fra my febill and faint ingine to tak,
 And to descrive the greit nobilitie,
 And tendernes that dois remane in the;
 The proverb is, gude will sould be payment,
 Becaus the tounge can nocht keip unitie,
 As wald the hart now to purpose I went.

The poem is, upon the whole, a curious picture of the manners of the age, with that strange jumble of the Pagan Mythology and the Christian Religion, of which we see so many examples in the works of Milton.

PHILALBAN.

THE EPHEMERON.

Letter from Dr Franklin to a Lady in France.

You may remember, my dear friend, that when we lately spent that happy day, in the delightful garden and sweet society of the Moulin Joly, I stopt a little in one of our walks, and staid some time behind the company. We had been shown numberless skeletons of a kind of little fly, called an Ephemera, whose successive generations, we were told, were bred and expired within the day. I happened to see a living company of them on a leaf, who appeared to be engaged in conversation. You know I understand all the inferior animal tongues: my too great application to the study of them is the best excuse I can give for the little progress I have made in your charming language. I listened through curiosity to the discourse of these little creatures; but as they, in their national vivacity, spoke three or four together, I could make but little of their conversation. I found, however, by some broken expressions that I heard now and then, they were disputing warmly on the merit of two foreign musicians, one a *cousin*, the other a *muschetto**; in which dispute they spent their time, seemingly as regardless of the shortness of life, as if they had been sure of living a month. Happy people! thought I, you live certainly under a wise, just, and mild government, since you have no public grievances to complain of, nor any subject of contention, but the perfections or imperfections of foreign music. I turned my head from them to an old grey-headed one, who was single on another leaf, and talking to himself. Being amused with his soliloquy, I have put it down in writing, in hopes it will likewise amuse her to whom I am so much indebted for the most pleasing of all amusements, her delicious company and heavenly harmony. "It was," says he, "the opinion of learned philosophers of our race, who lived and flourished long before my time, that this vast world, the *Moulin Joly*, could not itself subsist more than eighteen hours: and I think there was some foundation for that opinion, since, by the apparent motion of the great luminary, that gives life to all nature, and which in my time has evidently declined considerably towards the ocean at the end of our earth, it must

* Two kinds of flies so called.

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in France.

When we lately
and sweet fo-
e of our walks,
We had been
fly, called an
were told, were
to see a living
be engaged in
inferior animal
of them is the
have made in
curiosity to the
in their natio-
ould make but
by some broken
were disputing
one a *cousin*,
pent their time,
as if they had
thought I, you
vernment, since
nor any subject
ions of foreign
old grey-headed
ng to himself.
down in writ-
whom I am so
nufements, her
was," says he,
race, who lived
past world, the
eighteen hours :
opinion, since,
that gives life
dently declined
e earth, it must

Bay of Honduras, or Coast of Yucatan, for use of British Settlers, —	Ditto, —	Flour 250, biscuit 50, —	300
Hudson's Bay, for benefit of Hudson's Bay Company and Servants, —	London, —	Pease 20, oatmeal 20 —	40
		Barley, —	115
		Wheat meal, or flour, —	40
		Oats, oatmeal, groats, barley, pease, beans, malt, and biscuit, —	—
	Ditto, —	Pease, —	260
	Bristol, —	Biscuit 500, flour 64, —	500
		Ditto 500, ditto 48, —	564
		Pease, —	548
	Pool, —	Ditto, —	450
		Biscuit 1400, flour 400, —	1300
	Dartmouth, —	Ditto 850, ditto 340, —	1800
		Pease, —	1090
	Topsham and Tingenouth, —	Ditto, —	850
		Biscuit 900, flour 140, —	1200
	Liverpool, —	Ditto 300, flour 48, —	1140
		Pease, —	348
		Ditto, —	280
		Biscuit 120, flour 32, —	240
	Plymouth, —	Ditto 200, ditto 40, —	152
		Pease, —	240
	Chester, —	Ditto, —	200
		Biscuit 200, flour 48, —	240
	Port-Glasgow & Greenock, —	Biscuit, —	248
		Pease, —	150
	Barnstable, —	Ditto, —	100
		Biscuit 150, flour 64, —	150
	Southampton, —	Biscuit, —	150
		Pease or flour, —	214
	Cowes, —	Ditto, —	150
		Biscuit, —	300
			300
			120

To be inserted from page 28.

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and from certain Places in One Year.

To what Place. *From what Port.* *Demonination.*

Quantity. *Quality.*
Gr. | *Tons.*

To what Place.	From what Port.	Denomination.	Quantity.	
			Qrs.	Tons.
Nova Scotia,	London,	Pease,	600	448
		Biscuit 400, flour 48,	—	382
	Bristol,	Ditto 350, ditto 32,	—	—
		Pease,	400	—
	Poole,	Ditto,	200	—
		Biscuit 200, flour 32,	—	232
	Dartmouth,	Ditto 300, ditto 48,	—	349
		Pease,	300	—
	Topsham and Tingsmouth,	Ditto,	400	—
		Biscuit 400, flour 48,	—	448
	Plymouth,	Ditto 300, ditto 40,	—	340
		Pease,	300	—
	London,	Ditto,	500	—
	Bristol,	Biscuit 400, flour 80,	—	480
Bay Chaleur,		Ditto 300, ditto 32,	—	332
		Pease,	400	—
	Poole,	Ditto,	200	—
		Biscuit 200, flour 48,	—	248
	Dartmouth,	Ditto 300, ditto 48,	—	348
		Pease,	300	—
	Topsham and Tingsmouth,	Ditto,	400	—
		Biscuit 400, flour 48,	—	448
	Plymouth,	Ditto 300, ditto 30,	—	330
		Pease,	300	—
	London,	Ditto,	500	—
	Bristol,	Biscuit 400, flour 32,	—	432
		Ditto 300, ditto 32,	—	332
	Poole,	Pease,	400	—
		Ditto,	200	232

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then finish its course,—be extinguished in the waters that surround us—and leave the world in cold and darkness, necessarily producing universal death and destruction. I have lived seven of these hours, a great age, being no less than 420 minutes of time. How very few of us continue so long! I have seen generations born, flourish and expire. My present friends are the children and grand children of the friends of my youth, who are now, alas! no more, and I must soon follow them; for by the course of nature, though still in health, I cannot expect to live above seven or eight minutes longer. What now avails all my toil and labour in amassing honey-dew on this leaf, which I cannot live to enjoy! What, the political struggles I have been engaged in, for the good of my compatriot inhabitants of this bush, or my philosophical studies for the benefit of our race in general! for in politics (what can laws do without morals?) our present race of ephemera will, in a course of minutes, become corrupt, like those of other and older bushes, and consequently as wretched: and in philosophy, how small our progress! alas! art is long, and life is short. My friends would comfort me with the idea of a name, they say I shall leave behind me; and they tell me I have lived long enough to nature and to glory. But what will fame be to an Ephemera who no longer exists! and what will become of all history in the eighteenth hour, when the world itself, even the whole *Moulin Joly*, shall come to its end and be buried in universal ruin? To me, after all my eager pursuits, no solid pleasures now remain, but the reflection of a long life spent in meaning well, the sensible conversation of a few good lady Ephemeræ, and now and then a kind smile and a tune from the ever amiable brilliant."

Intelligence respecting Arts.

COAL TAR.

THE virtues of this valuable substance in preserving wood from corruption, for which the public are indebted to Lord Dundonald, are now established by such a variety of decisive experiments, as can leave no room for doubt in the mind of any person who will take the trouble to examine them. One experiment of this kind is however so decisive, and so easy to

be authenticated to the satisfaction of every person in this country who wishes to be informed, that I cannot deny myself the satisfaction to mention it: The ship *Rofelle*, now lying in Leith harbour, has made *three* voyages to the West Indies, after having been payed with coal tar, without having received any damage from worms. To have secured this vessel equally effectually, she must have been new sheathed with fir-plank at every voyage, which must have cost the owners a good many hundred pounds.

FIRE CLAY.

LORD DUNDONALD continues his chemical researches with unwearied assiduity. Among other discoveries which promise to redound to the benefit of this country, some which we are not yet at liberty to mention, it is of general importance that it should be universally known that his Lordship has lately discovered an inexhaustible bed of fire clay, of the finest quality, which he undertakes to put free on board vessels at the harbour of Culrofs, at the very moderate price of per ton. This clay has been found upon trial, to be equal to any other yet known for making bricks fit to resist a very great degree of heat. The same clay, with a very moderate degree of preparation, can be employed for making the finest kinds of pottery, superior even to that of Stourbridge in Staffordshire, and may be afforded any where upon the sea-coast at a very inferior price.

PETUNTSE.

It has been lately announced in the newspapers, that *marle*, as they call it, has been discovered in Jamaica, which possesses the same qualities as the *petuntse* of China, which has been so long a desideratum in Europe for the manufacture of porcelain. Mr Williams, in his observations on the mineral kingdom, describes a substance that he found as a sediment at the bottom of some lakes in Invernesshire, which he conceives to be decomposed granite, that he thinks possesses all the qualities of the true *petuntse* of China; but I have not heard if any experiments have yet been made with sufficient accuracy to ascertain this doubtful fact. Another substance has been of late discovered in Scotland, that has qualities apparently much the same with the Chinese *petuntse*, as it has been described by the Jesuits, and is converted by fire into a kind of

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AGRICULTURAL NEWS.

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pottery, which in its fracture and other qualities, very much resembles the best porcelaine, having precisely the same internal smoothness where broken, and the same transparency that so peculiarly characterises that valuable manufacture. This I myself have seen; but the person to whom it belongs does not wish to have it more particularly mentioned, till more accurate experiments shall have ascertained its qualities with precision.

Agricultural News.

CHICORY.

About three years ago, *M. Crette de Pallou* communicated to the Royal Society of Agriculture in Paris, the result of some experiments he had made on the culture of the plant called Chicory, *Chicorium intybus*, as a food for cattle, which he found, in several respects, exceeded his most sanguine expectations. The plant is by no means uncommon. It grows with a broad succulent leaf, very much resembling, while young, the common dandelion, only it rises more upright from the ground: Like that plant too it has a bitter taste, and yields a milky juice.—Its stalk rises upright, is thick, branching, hollow in the heart, and succulent. *M. Crette* sowed its seeds among spring corn, which came up among it as readily as clover, and yields a crop of forage the second year.—It resists, he says, the greatest droughts—grows with great luxuriance—admits of being cut with the scythe without sustaining any injury, and springs up afresh after each cutting, so as to admit of being cut twice, thrice, or four times in one year. It is readily eaten by cows, horses, sheep, and other domestic animals, when cut and given to them in the stall; but is not so proper for being browsed upon as a pasture. It is too succulent to admit of being easily made into hay; and he therefore thinks it economical to have it cut and consumed as a green forage. It yielded at the rate of 32 tons of green forage from an English acre, or, when dry, about eleven tons of hay. It grows very early in the spring, and may be cut, as *M. Crette* asserts, in the month of April.

It has been since that time cultivated by several people in France, who speak favourably of it; and Mr Arthur Young

has tried it in England, with great success. From that public spirited cultivator I had some of its seeds, which were sown in June last. They came up very well, and yielded one tolerably abundant crop this autumn, at one cutting. It promises to make an useful addition to the farmers catalogue of cultivable plants; and, although, probably some abatements must be made from the sanguine accounts of its first cultivator, it is highly probable, that when its qualities shall be ascertained, and the uses to which it can be best applied are fully understood, it will prove a valuable acquisition to agriculture.

SIBERIAN MELILOT.

THIS is another plant that has been recommended to the notice of farmers, by the French oeconomists. Some seeds of it were sent by M. Thouin, gardener to the King of France, in the botanical garden at Paris, to Mr Arthur Young, which was sown by him in the Spring 1790. The appearance of it was so inviting, that he obtained more seeds of it. April 11. 1791, he sowed a piece of it partly in drills, at two feet six inches, and one square perch, broad cast; the latter with one and a half ounce of seed, or 15 lib. an acre. The soil is a moist loam, on a cold marly bottom. The preparation of the piece of ground was cabbages running to seed, and in full blossom, pulled up, and dug into the ground, by being laid in the trench while digging. Both pieces were kept clear of weeds during the Summer.

April 22. they were both mowed, being a full and beautiful crop; one square perch of the drilled weighed 105 lb. which is equal to 72 tons per acre. The perch, broad cast, weighed 84 lib. which is equal to six tons per acre. The one is equal probably to about two tons of hay per acre (English), and the other more than one and a half.

Cows, work-oxen, calves, and horses, all eat it readily.

Now that it is found that broad clover cannot be made to thrive on a great many soils, any plant that can be employed as a substitute to it, for making into hay, deserves to be particularly attended to.

Mr Young promises to continue his experiments on this plant, and to communicate the result of them to the public.

From that public which were sown in yielded one tolera-cutting. It pro-ormers catalogue of some abatements of its first cultiva-ualities shall be af-e best applied are acquisition to agri-

commended to the ts. Some seeds of e King of France, thur Young, which e appearance of it s of it. April 11. ls, at two feet six the latter with one cre. The soil is a preparation of the s seed, and in full l, by being laid in were kept clear of

a full and beautiful ed 105 lb. which oroad cast, weighed The one is equal (English), and the

eat it readily. cannot be made to t can be employed deserves to be par-

periments on this m to the public.

Specimen of the Manner of Writing in the 16th Century.

To the Editor of the Bee.

SIR,

The following Picture of the Kingdom of Scotland is drawn up in the seventh year of the age and reign of Queen Mary, in the Complaint of Scotland by Wedderburn, printed 1549, from which it is copied literatim by your humble servant,

PHILALBAN.

" In my dullit dreyme ande sopit visone, I thoecht that ther aperit to me ane lady of excellent extractiōne, ande of anciant genolygie, makkand ane melancholius choir for the grite violens that the had sustenit ande indurit. It aperit be hyr woful contenens that sche was in grite dout and dredour for ane mair dolorus future ruyne that was aperand to succumb hyr haistylye, in the maist extreme exterminatiōne.—Hyr hayr of the cullour of syne gold, was feltrit and trachlit out of ordour, hingand over her schulders.—Sche hed ane crown of gold, hingand ande brangland, that it was lyik to fal doune fra hyr hede to the cald eird.—Sche bure an scheild, in the quhilk was gravit ane rede rampand lyone, in ane field of gold, bordoryt about witht doubil flouredelices. This rede lyone was hurt in mony placis of his body.

The accutrementis ande clothyng of this dolorus lady was ane fyde mantil, that couvrit al her body, of an mervelouse ingenius fassone, the quhilk had bene tissue, ande wrocht be thre syndrye fassones of werkmenchips.

The fyrst part, quhilk was the lie bordour of hyr mantil, ther was mony precius stanis, quharin ther was gravit scheildis, speyris, souldis, bayrdit horse, harness, ande al uthir fortis of waupynis and munitions of weyr.

In the middis of that mantil ther was gravit in carrecters, beukis and figuris, diverse sciensis, divyne ande humain, witht mony cheretabil actis, ande supernatural miraclis.

On the third part of that mantil, I beheld brocht about al hyr tail, al fortis of cattel and profitabil baytis, al fortis of cornis, eyrbis, plantis, grene treis, schips, marchantdreis, ande

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mony politic werkmanlumis for mecanyc craftis. This mantil, quhilk had been made ande wrocht in ald tymys be the prudent predeceffours of this foyrlaid lady, was revyn and raggit in mony placis, that mycht not I perlave the storeis ande figuris that hed bene gravit, wrocht, and brodrut in ald tymys, in the thre partis of it; for the fyrst part of it wantyt mony of the scheildis ande harnes that was fyrst wrocht in it, ande an uther part of the scheildis and harnes war brokyn ande routhit; ande reddye to fal ande tyme furtht of the bordour of that mantil. Siklyik the pleisand werkmenfchips that was in the middis of hyr mantil was seperat fra uthers; and altrit fra the fyrst fassone that na man culd extract ony profitabil sentens, nor gude exempil furtht of ony part of it. Now to speik of the third part of hyr mantil, it was werst grathit ande spylt be ane grit differens, nor was the tother tua partis of that mantil, for it aperit thair al the grene treis, cornis, bestialite, mecanyc craftis, and marchandrie, that hed bene curiouslye wrocht in ald tymys in the bordour of the tail of that mantil, was put and distroyit, and the eird was becum barran ande stirril, ande that na ordinance of policie culd be peravit in it, nor esperance of relief. Now to conclude of the fassone of this ladeis mantil, it was baytht altrit in coulour ande in beulk, ande revyn in mony placis, hingand doune raggit in piecis, in sic ane fort, that gyf thay hed bene present that wrocht ande made it in the begynnyng, thay wald have clair myskend it, be rasone that it was fa mekil altrit fra the fyrst fassone."

For the Bee.

SIR,

I AM very happy to find, that though you are so well employed in collecting materials for public information, from more dignified subjects; yet that you have not thought it unworthy of your notice to look down upon the humble earth-worm, presented to your view by the young observer.

The conjecture which he has so modestly suggested, with regard to worms using the leaf and the grass when in a putrid state for food, is perfectly just; and had he followed his

worm through the windings of its passage till it arrived at its dark cell, he would have observed an immense quantity of the same matter piled up with the utmost regularity to support it when the frost renders the earth impenetrable. I hope this new correspondent will favour the public from time to time with the success of his researches into this useful and hitherto unexplored recess of nature's works.

He will find that there are many other insects, and many other species of animals, which, like the worm, prefer putrid to fresh food; and thus, while this observer may add so materially to the stock of human knowledge, he will encrease our admiration also of the astonishing diversity in the structure of animals so well adapted to their food, and of the endless variety of subjects for our investigation, which the works of nature so copiously afford.

AN OLD OBSERVER.

Ancient Indictment.

SIR,

I FOUND the following memorandum of a remarkable indictment in an old MS. that fell accidentally into my hands the other day. If you think it worthy of a place in your Miscellany, it is at your service. The writer begins his minutes thus:—"Memorandum, That on the 19 day of February 1661, was the first tyme that I was uppone the Jury for life and death at the Old Bayley, and then there were these persons followinge tryde, and for what crime."

After making minutes of nine persons who were tried that day, and of seventeen the next day, being the 20th of February 1661, is the following:

"Katherine Roberts is endited for selleing of a child to the spirrits, for 28s. 6d. but after much heareinge of the witnesses, it could not bee clearly proved, and so she was found not guilty."

I must confess I cannot conceive what selling to the spirits can mean, but hope to see the opinion of some of your curious readers on it.

The next minute is:—"Mary Grante is endited for beating of her husband, but nothinge is made of this. The law says, that the husband cannot endite the wife for a battery."

I hope it will not be dangerous to print the latter. Yours,
&c. CURIOSUS.

Proceedings in Parliament.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Committee of Supply.

Monday, December 6. 1791.

THE most important business in the House of Commons is usually agitated in a committee of supply; here it is that the House exercises one of its most valuable functions, the controlling the expenditure of the public money; and were the members of that House to exercise their faculties on these occasions without bias in favour of party, their debates in these cases would be the most interesting that could be proposed. In the present state of things, such impartiality is not to be expected, and of course the reader does not meet with that entire satisfaction he might otherwise have received. Still, however, much may be learnt from the observations that occur on these occasions.

The business under discussion at the present session, respected *the navy*. The House having resolved itself into a committee,—Mr Gilbert in the chair,

Mr Hopkins, one of the Lords of the Admiralty, rose to move for the supply of seamen for the current year. He regretted that the circumstances of the times had rendered it necessary for the nation to have a greater naval force than usual, but he hoped that Government would soon be able to make a considerable reduction in the establishment. The number of men voted last year for the peace establishment of the navy, had been 20,000; but this year we must apply for 4000 more. He concluded with moving, “that 24,000 seamen, including 4,800 marines, be granted to his Majesty for the service of the ensuing year.”

Mr Rolle rose to thank the Admiralty Board for their employing at this time a greater proportion of *marines* than usual; and hoped they would continue to encourage more than had been hitherto done, that useful body of men, and hinted at the propriety of forming an establishment of invalids for the *marines*, as well as for those of the army, the artillery, and engineers. The question was then carried unanimously.

Mr Hopkins then moved, that 4*l.* per man per month, be allowed for defraying the expences of the said 24,000 men for the ensuing year.—*Agreed to.*

Exchequer Bills.

Mr. Rose then moved, that 3,500,000 l. be granted to his Majesty for the purpose of paying off a like sum raised on Exchequer bills to that amount, that had been issued in consequence of an act passed in the last Session of Parliament.—Agreed to. The committee then broke up.

Tuesday, December 7.

Mr. Gilbert brought up the report of the Committee of supply, by which 24,000 seamen were voted for the year 1791.

It was read a first time: On the question being put for its second reading,

Mr. Fox rose,—not, he said, for the purpose of opposing the resolution, but for the purpose of making some observations, which might, perhaps, lead to the information which he wished to have, and which every Member in that House ought to possess, before he votes a question of supply.

It had been stated on a former day, that the consideration of our late armament, as well in point of the expences which attend it, as the means to be adopted to defray them, were to be kept separate and distinct from all other ways and means and supply of the year; to this there could, perhaps, be no objection; but the vote now proposed required some explanation; without which, it must appear to him dark and ambiguous.

By the vote now before the House, a very considerable augmentation was to be made in our usual annual peace establishment: for this there should be given some reason, which the mere vote did not convey, and which argued, and conclusively established, one or two points; “Either that his Majesty’s Ministers are of opinion, that all our former establishments in time of peace, in the maritime departments, were too low, and that 24,000, instead of 18,000, seamen are requisite for the security of this country in the time of peace; or, that something appears to them, in the whole policy of Europe, to indicate that our present pacific situation is more precarious than at the conclusion of a treaty we are accustomed to expect.”

Upon the first of these two points there could be but little difficulty with the House. The case was not precisely so with regard to the second; for Ministers might have reasons which they may think proper to conceal; and on this he could not help observing, that, although he was one of those who were willing rather to allow to Ministers a certain quantity of confidence, with regard to the application of supplies, and thereby run the risque of squandering the money of their constituents, so far, blindly, than be parsimonious when the interest of the state required vigour and action; and although he was willing to allow, that, in certain cases the King’s Ministers were the

best judges as to what amount supplies should be granted upon an emergency: yet he must maintain, that the collected opinion of that House was equal in wisdom to, and much higher in authority than, the opinion of a few persons, who may, for a time, be the confidential servants of the Crown: and therefore the confidence which he was willing, and which he thought was advisable to allow to the King's Ministers, should be limited with regard to its duration; and that confidence did not seem to him to come within the scope of this case. He would suppose, for instance, that, on the approach, or at the continuance, of any hostilities between this and any power in Europe, that House would vote, on credit, a certain sum, by way of supply, and trust the application of it for a year; but then they would require the next year a minute and specific account of its application; and would exercise their discretion with regard to the granting of fresh supplies. Upon this the case was otherwise; for we are now on what is called a pacific period; and yet we are, instead of reducing our establishment, increasing it. This certainly required an explanation. If it was intended that part of the expences of our late armament should be covered by this vote, or included in it, his Majesty's servants should avow it, or otherwise it would be impossible for the public to understand for what their money is voted; and if these extraordinary expences were voted by that House, without a full explanation for what purpose it was intended, he feared they would not very well answer the description which they usually gave of themselves, viz. "Guardians of the public purse, for the benefit of the public." If there was any reason to apprehend that peace is but precarious, and that the general politics of Europe are at present in a doubtful state, the House should be so informed. If these extraordinary supplies were voted totally in the dark, the House, by that vote, would, in his opinion, desert their duty.

He hoped that these suggestions would procure for that House, and the public, a more explicit description of the cause of this supply, than was at present before the House. This was absolutely necessary; for if this augmented force was to be considered merely as the peace establishment in future of this country, and that it would always hereafter be absolutely necessary for the safety of the state, then a great deal more discussion would belong to the subject. But if it was admitted, that, from the general prospect of affairs, we had reason to apprehend danger, then he should most cordially assent to this resolution. A short conversation then ensued between *Mr Hopkins*, *Mr Rose*, and *Mr Fox*, of little moment, *Mr Pitt* having declared, that no augmentation of the peace establishment was intended, but "That it is the opinion of his Majesty's servants, that the

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1791.

ON ENGLISH PLAYS.

39

present aspect of affairs in Europe, renders it expedient to maintain, for a certain period, an armament somewhat exceeding the common peace establishment of this country."

Mr Fox declared himself perfectly satisfied with the explanation. The resolution was read a second time and passed.

Remarks on some English Plays, continued from Vol. V. page 144.

The Lyar—By Samuel Foote, Esq;

THERE are some things diverting, but many more trifling in this piece. Extravagance and pleantry are blended through the whole of it. There is much good humour in the first scene, part of which has been suppressed by the managers. The footman's familiarity and pleantry are not unnatural, as usual in modern comedy, and are well accounted for by the curious history of his life.

Chrononhotontologos—By Mr Carey.

A burlesque on modern tragedy, in some passages pleasant enough; but every attempt to imitate the *Rehearsal* has hitherto been very unavailing, though there is great abundance of new matter for such exquisite criticism and just ridicule. The plays of Young alone, though yet acted, and admired by many, afford more examples of unnatural flights, quaint conceits, and every species of dramatic absurdity, than all the plays ridiculed in the *Rehearsal*.

Midas, a Burletta—By Kane O'Hara, Esq;

WHAT power of acting, music, or song, what shew of scenery, can make this piece an entertainment to any audience above the age of pupillarity? When one has seen no theatrical entertainment but a puppet-show, or a harlequin, he may be excused for being highly diverted at mere grimace, or the coarse jokes of punch and his wife. But I often wonder that an au-

dience accustomed to see the plays of Shakespeare, can endure the bulk of other tragedies; or that the spectators of a Beggar's Opera can suffer this, and almost every one of the other comic operas in our language, to pass one night without damnation. Yet a mass of such mean musical pieces have flourished, of late years, on our theatres; sounds without sense or humour, and mere musical notes without a single spark of poetical genius.

The Citizen—By Arthur Murphy, I :

WHEN OUR moderns try to write in the style of natural character and conversation, they fall into a medley of insipidity and affectation. They can bear no comparison to the old poets, Shakespeare, Johnson, and Fletcher, whom they mean to imitate.

The Toy Shop—By Dodgley.

THERE is in this piece a mixture of quaintness with good sense and some wit; but it is so full of serious thought and studied expression, that I cannot conceive how any art of acting can make it a proper or agreeable entertainment on the stage.

The Englishman in Paris—By Foote.

THIS is a less negligent piece than most of Foote's. There is a good deal of characteristic humour and pleasantry in it, very unlike the great bulk of modern comedy. And what is farce but a short comedy?

The Englishman Returned from Paris—By Foote.

PROPRIETY, ease, and humour, distinguish Foote's prologues, from the studied strains of his contemporaries. The "invita Minerva" of Horace is most significantly expressed by Shakespeare:

"Extremely strain'd, and conn'd with cruel pain."

This line is perfectly applicable to the bulk of modern writing of all kinds; *vide* Warburton, Johnson, Gibbon, and almost all our dramatic pieces, except Douglas.

This play is absurd in the plot, loose, and ill digested in the scenes, with a base tendency to promote national pride and prejudices, disgraceful and baneful to England in this unhappy age. Some passages, which the author intended to obviate this censure, are suppressed by the wise stage managers. See page 11. and 116.

Nov. 9.

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THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, November 16, 1791.

Additional Remarks on the Poetry of Buchanan.

(Continued from Vol. V. p. 322.)

3. THE next section is entitled *Elegiarum Liber*, and consists of nine different articles. The first of these contains an hundred and ten lines, and describes the miserable situation of the teachers of literature at Paris. It is probable that at this time Buchanan was himself an under-professor in the university; for he speaks with much asperity of the professors, and complains of the harshness of their discipline in the most pointed terms. He observes that the plowman, and even the slave who works in fetters, enjoy at night an agreeable slumber; that the sailor sleeps in the midst of the ocean; in short, that all nature is at rest excepting the professors and students in the university of Paris. He concludes with a solemn peroration against Apollo, the Muses, and the beggarly profession of learning; and protests that Caliope would not have remained a maid till this time if she had not been penniless. The second elegy is in a very different stile, it is written on the kalends of May, and exhibits one of the finest scenes of rural and

Vol. VI.

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pastoral description that can possibly be imagined:—it extends to an hundred and forty-five lines. The third elegy is a very strange composition. It is inscribed to one of the senators of Bourdeaux, and ought to have been entitled, A modest Defence of Fornication. How any man in the character of a public teacher ventured to publish such a performance it is not very easy to conceive: yet we must remember that the manners of that age were much less refined than ours. There is, indeed, nothing in the poem positively indecent; but there is so much more understood than expressed, that we can hardly believe Buchanan expected its perusal would invigorate the chastity of a young student*. In this very piece, however, he declaims, in the severest style, against batchelors, and describes, with the most interesting eloquence, the transcendent felicity of possessing a virtuous and dutiful wife. The reader may perhaps imagine that such discordant materials cannot compose a very coherent production: but there was nothing which Buchanan feared to attempt, and very little which he failed to perform. A short specimen may be agreeable to the reader;—addressing the senator, he says,

“ Cū mare, cum tellus homines populetur, et ignis,
Tot pereant morbo, tot fera bella necent;
Cumque hominem in pejus solertia callida semper
Inveniat causas in sua fata novas:
Tun' prohibere audes veneris commercia? lenas
Si tollis, veneris comoda quanta vetas?
Tun' prohibere audes veneris commercia? sola
Humanum poterant quæ reparare genus?

* Of all the modes of writing that have been invented, perhaps that of conveying impure ideas, in terms that are not disgusting, is the most reprehensible; as it tends to corrupt the *pure*, who would turn away with aversion from the shocking sensualities in which the depraved alone can take pleasure. In this respect, and in several others, those who read the works of Buchanan must feel, that however much they may admire the *literary* character of this great man, it is impossible to look upon his *moral* character with the same degree of veneration. — EDIT.

AN. Nov. 16,

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1791. ON THE WRITINGS OF G. BUCHANAN. 51

"When land, and water, and fire, combine to de-
stroy mankind; when so many perish by disease, and
so many are butchered by barbarous war; when hu-
man invention, ever fertile in framing mischief, is
perpetually pointing out fresh paths to destruction;
darest thou to forbid the commerce of love? By the
expulsion of concubines how many of the enjoyments
of love are destroyed? Darest thou to prohibit the
pleasures of love, the single refuge left us to repair
the ravages of the species?"

The poet proceeds to remind him that mankind cannot now be propagated like the Myrmidons from pismires, or from clay and stones, as in the days of Prometheus and Pyrrha.

The fourth elegy is addressed to two of his literary friends, and contains an account of his sufferings in a severe illness. The fifth is inscribed to the Chancellor of France, and is a petition in behalf of the school of Bourdeaux.

The sixth, which consists of fifty-four lines, is addressed to a lady on her recovery from sickness, and is, in point of tenderness, perhaps the master-piece of our author. It is one of those happy productions which we can never tire of reading. The seventh and eighth elegies are of a very different nature; they are inscribed to a strumpet, on whom Buchanan discharges himself in a torrent of abuse. The ninth elegy is in a superior style.

4. The next part of the collection is entitled *Silvæ*, and consists of seven articles, all in hexameter verse. The first is dated in 1539, and inscribed in the name of the students at Bourdeaux to the Emperor Charles V. With great eloquence and dignity he touches on the principal events in the reign of Charles, and compares his condescension in visiting Bourdeaux to that of Jupiter entertained by the Ethiopians. The Emperor had not yet, by the execution of fifty or an hundred thousand of his protestant subjects in the Netherlands, for-

feited all pretence to the tenderness or esteem of mankind. The second is inscribed to a friend, whose absence he regrets in a strain of beautiful and pathetic poetry. The third is entitled *Desiderium Lutetiae*. In this poem Buchanan deplores, in affecting language, his absence from Paris, which he represents under the character of a mistress, whose charms had for seven years incessantly disturbed his peace. He concludes with the strongest protestations of fidelity.

" Et prius æquoribus pisces et montibus umbræ,
Et volucres deerunt Sylvis, et murmura ventis
Quam mihi discedent formosæ Amaryllidis ignes :
Illa necum rudibus succendit pectora flammis,
Finiet illa meos moriens morientis amores.

" Sooner shall fishes be wanting to the sea, and the mountains cease to reflect their shadows ; sooner shall birds leave their woods, and noise to attend the tempest, than my passion for Amaryllis shall desert me. She first kindled the flames of love in my breast, and her death shall extinguish them for ever." The next article is an epithalamium on the marriage of Francis the second with queen Mary. In this poem, so different from the strains of a modern laureate, the genius of Buchanan shines in all its glory. To give a proper idea of a performance which extends to two hundred and eighty-seven lines is here impossible. The poet, after enlarging on the felicity of the young couple, and the joy that their union diffused over both nations, proceeds to give them a series of advices for their conduct in the exalted station which they were destined to fill. He begins with the French monarch, and, after a profusion of compliments, proceeds in the most elevated language of poetry to remind him of the honours and advantages he derived from a consort so illustrious as the queen of Scotland. He expatiates on the ancient independence of his country, and the valour of its inhabitants. Of this passage, which has been often quoted, one need only say, that

AN. Nov. 16,

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1791. ON THE WRITINGS OF G. BUCHANAN. 53

that it has hardly ever been excelled, even by our au-
thor himself: a few lines may serve as a specimen.
After having enlarged on the martial virtues of our
ancestors, he adds:

" Artibus his, totum fremere cum bella per orbem,
Nullaque non leges tellus mutaret avitas
Externo subiecta iugo, gens una vetustis
Sedibus antiqua sub libertate resedit.
Substitit hic Gothi furor, hic gravis impetus hæsit
Saxonis, hic Cimber superato Saxone, et acri
Perdomito et neuster Cimbri. Si volvere priscos
Non piget annales, hic et victoria fixit
Precipitem Romana gradum: quem non graves Ausper
Reppulit, incultis non squalens Parthia campis,
Non æstu Meroë, non frigore Rhenis et Albis
Tardavit, Latium remorata est Scotia cursum:
Solaque gens mundi est cum qua non culmine montis,
Non rapidi ripis amnis, non obijce sylvæ,
Non valli spatii campi Romana potestas,
Sed muris fossaque sui confinia regni
Munivit: gentesque alias cum pelleret armis
Sedibus, aut victas vilem servaret in usum
Servitii, hic contenta suos defendere fines
Roma securigeris præterdit mania Scotis:
Hic spe progressus posita Carronis ad undam
Terminus Ausonii signat divortia regni.

" Hence it was, that when wars raged in every
" other part of the world, when there was no country
" which did not change its ancient laws and bend
" under a foreign yoke, that a single nation maintain-
" ed its native possessions, and its former liberty.
" Here it was, that the fury of the Goths was forced
" to pause, here was checked the dreadful force of
" the Saxons, of the Danes who vanquished the Sax-
" ons, and of the Normans who vanquished the
" Danes. We have no cause to blush at the annals
" of our ancestors: here it was, that victorious
" Rome stopped in her rapid course.—She whom
" neither the formidable Carthaginian repulsed, nor
" the horrid desarts of Parthia, nor the burning sun
" of Ethiopia, nor the frozen Elbe, nor the Rhine
" could stop, was compelled to pause on the confines

“ of Scotland. This was the only country in which
 “ the Roman Empire was bounded, not by inaccessible
 “ mountains, not by the banks of a rapid river,
 “ not by a forest, or by an extensive plain, but by
 “ walls and trenches. While by her arms she was
 “ driving other nations from their native seats, or reducing
 “ them to disgraceful servitude, here alone
 “ Rome was contented to defend her limits, and protect
 “ herself by ramparts from the Caledonian battle
 “ ax. Here, laying aside the hope of conquest,
 “ Terminus, upon the banks of Carron, fixed the limits
 “ of the Italian empire.”—He proceeds in a style not
 very courtly, to remind Francis that the French nation
 had never, since the days of Charlemagne, performed
 any martial exploit of consequence, where the
 Scots had not born away a full share of the honours of
 the field. He concludes by the usual predictions of
 prosperity and happiness. The next article contains a
 striking picture of the miseries of France, occasioned
 by the death of that young prince. Buchanan seems
 to have been fond of horsemanship; for we have a
 short but elegant poem in praise of the horse.

The last piece in this division, is a poem upon the
 birth of James VI. He begins by anticipating the natural
 and happy consequences of an union between the
 two kingdoms, and expresses, in the language of a man
 who loved his country, his wishes that the royal parents
 may educate their son in such a manner as to qualify
 him for his exalted station. The rest of this
 performance consists entirely of a series of excellent
 moral lessons, of which it seems highly proper to remind
 the present generation. We have seen the mad
 prodigality of three or four individuals precipitate into
 bankruptcy the government of a great nation. We
 can have no doubt that, in other countries, the same
 conduct will, in due time, produce the same just and
 natural effects. Buchanan affirms that the manners

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of a people depend much less upon the laws of the state than upon the example of their prince. He has not indeed insulted his intended pupil, by insinuating that he may one day, forgetting the respect that is due to his station, demean himself so far as to become a companion for the most despicable class of his subjects; but he expatiates upon the ruin and infamy which attend an abuse of wine or women. "What man," says Buchanan, "is not ashamed of being drunk, when he knows that his king is sober." He warns James against profusion in his personal and domestic expences, and informs him that a worthless sovereign is the greatest curse of society. Alexander, Nero, and Domitian are brought forward as examples of the fatal effects of barbarity and despotism. In short, the whole poem, except a few lines at the beginning, is a rigid lecture of which Hampden or Sully would not have been ashamed; and for which he would have been sincerely thanked by a Gustavus Adolphus*, or a Frederick. He concludes with an advice to study letters and philosophy, as the best school for the art of government. "If in the business of life," says the poet, "he is attentive to these rules, he shall be happy in swaying the sceptre of his ancestors." How opposite, how deplorable on the birth of a prince, is the language of Dryden, who compares the junction of three kingdoms in one, to the sacred mysteries of religion. Dryden, however, would certainly, in our luxurious and servile age, have born away the palm of popularity and preferment from his cynical predecessor. Though he lived and died in the bosom of treason, rapine, and proscription, Buchanan would have seen, with surprise, our modern standard of morality. We call ourselves a free people, and yet we have submitted

* Harte tells us that the Swedish monarch, having, after an obstinate siege, forced a town to surrender, to convince the inhabitants of their perfect security, entered first himself, without a single attendant, and going into a bookseller's shop, enquired for a copy of Buchanan's poems.

to hear, from the chair of justice, that *truth is a libel*, a doctrine which tears up the foundations of civil society, and compared to which transubstantiation, or even the divine right of tyrants, is a modest and respectable sophism. With what indignation would the author of the treatise *de jure regni* have branded the father and abettors of such an execrable maxim. It is natural enough, that a barrister, whose life has been employed in brawling, should in the end distort his own mind out of all sense of equity, and when HE mounts the saddle of authority, such decisions may sometimes be expected; but what are we to think of those abandoned jurors, who sporting with the trust of their fellow citizens, have crouched under this utmost insolence of juridical corruption.

(To be continued.)

HINTS TO THE LEARNED.

A beautiful unedited poem of Prior's was not long since in the possession of a lady of distinction, now deceased. The subject, (if I remember right,) the art of poetry.

Among the papers of the late learned and amiable Dr. Spence of Durham, author of the *Polymites* and other valuable works, there were characteristics of the manners and principles of his own times, accompanied with historical and biographical notes, these by means of a judicious selection, might be rendered very useful and worthy of the public.

✓ In the multiplicity of what we moderns are pleased to call original works, (but which are nevertheless hardly any thing better than *hache's* or *olio podridas* of the ancients.) we have been too little attentive to the useful and respectable task of translating such works as are locked up, in languages, unintelligible to

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HINTS TO THE LEARNED.

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those who have not made Greek and Latin the study of their lives; it being certain, that not one of an hundred of those who have had the best classical education are capable of reading Tully with the feeling and conception of a Melmoth, or to receive the general effect of a Greek or Latin classic without such assistance; and that it is highly desirable in common politeness, and even in common decency, that the fair sex should participate in our pleasures, whether literary or domestic. ✓

The miscellaneous works of Plutarch ought to be correctly and elegantly translated into the living languages of all polite nations, on account of the moral as well as natural treasures they contain, and the many curious particulars with which they abound, from which, as from a rich mine, the facetious Montaigne has laid the foundation of entertainment to all his readers for ever. These books ought to be accompanied with notes, in the manner of the learned Mr Duttons, in his enquiry into the origin of the discoveries attributed to the moderns.

The same may be said concerning the *varie historia* of Cælian, and the works of Pausanias.

Except a few of Seneca's epistles, poorly translated by Sir Roger L'Estrange, we have nothing in our language that can convey the sentiments of that moral writer to the unlearned; a description of individuals much more extensive than it might be decent or prudent to declare.

Mr Melmoth once intended to translate these epistles, but desisted on account of the difficulty attending the letters which treat of the culture of vines and of olive trees.

A general assembly of the learned, in Europe, to be formed of representatives, chosen by all the regular philosophical and literary societies for the time being, is a constitution in the republic of learning much

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to be desired, and which would do more for the improvement of the world, than any institution that has yet been thought of. The session of this assembly ought to be rotatory in the different capital cities of Europe, each society chusing a delegate to reside at the seat of the assembly, with a competent allowance for his travelling charges and maintenance.

Nine members to be chosen from the assembly, as a council, and four more as censors, in the four great general departments of human knowledge, four clerks in each of these departments, and two secretaries to the assembly to carry on its correspondence.

A general circulation of transactions to take place quarterly, and a general report to be made annually of the state of science and literature.

A press to be established for printing such manuscripts as have been approved by the council, the profits of which, after paying charges, to be remitted to the authors or proprietors.

Slight Notices of a curious and rare Book, entitled, The History of the Conquest of Spain by the Moors, originally written about the Year 750, by Abalcacim Abentarique, in the Arabic Language, and translated into Spanish by Miguel de Luna, Arabic Interpreter to Philip II. of Spain; printed in Granada Anno 1599, and never translated into English.

I CONSIDER the book which forms the subject of the present article as one of the greatest literary curiosities to be met with any where. It contains the history of an interesting period that is very little known, and gives a view of the arts, sciences, manners, and modes of thinking of a great people, concerning whom few memorials are preserved in Europe. It was written about a hundred years before the days of our Alfred,

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ON THE HISTORY OF SPAIN.

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at a time when Britain, France, Germany, and Italy were involved in the darkest ignorance and barbarism: when princes could not read, when bishops were not capable of writing, and when a province was sometimes mortgaged for a book: yet it appears, by the clearest internal evidence, that the author was a man of learning, of sound judgment, extensive knowledge, liberality of mind, and great piety, without the smallest tincture of bigotry;—that his taste had been refined by an acquaintance with the writings of the ancients; that agriculture, commerce, manufactures, were objects familiar to him, and understood by the body of the people to whom he belonged. Even Spain, which afterwards sunk into such a deplorable state of ignorance and religious fanaticism, appears to have been, before the conquest of it by the Moors, much farther advanced in civilization, and to have possessed a more perfect knowledge of the useful arts than any other European nation; and the country was then much better peopled, more highly cultivated, and enjoyed a better form of government than at the present day.

In the course of this work is given a particular account of the private and public life of the great Miramolin Jacob Almanzor, the conqueror of Spain, and of the manner in which he regulated his conduct, and managed the affairs of his kingdom. This part of the work was written at the express command of *Abilgualit Abninazr*, the son of Almanzor, by a nobleman who had been about his person as chamberlain, as we would now call it, for upwards of 40 years. In this account the writer *displays*, I would not say *describes*, the beneficent arts by which the great Almanzor attained to that eminence of power which made him be beloved and revered by all those over whom his influence extended.—We are here presented with a view of the exercises and studies of an ingenuous youth, spirited in his pursuits, magnanimous in enterprise, and

liberal in all his views. The young Almanzor, instead of entering on scenes of dissipation and riotous living, engaged, with unremitting ardour, in the study of science, and in improving himself in political knowledge, in military exercises, and manly exertions. He composed, himself, several books, that were in much estimation in mathematics, the military art, philosophy, and politics. He was well acquainted with the Greek and Latin authors; and at the age of 25 he spoke eleven languages, and wrote them with perfect ease.—These are acquirements of such a singular nature, when compared with those of cotemporary princes, as might pass for fables, had they not been written at the time the facts were recent, and notoriously known to millions who were then alive. Nor could the writer have formed an idea of these acquirements, or have described them as familiar objects, had not similar acquirements, though perhaps in a lesser degree, been then common in the nation.

Of the great wealth of the Moorish princes at that time some idea may be formed from the following anecdote.—The father of Almanzor having called a meeting of his nobles to celebrate the birth-day of his son, when he attained his fifteenth year, he treated them with great kindness and liberality. Young Almanzor, in the mean while, distributed money freely among them, without taking the trouble of counting it; but the treasurer having weighed it, found, that in one afternoon, he had distributed no less than 25 arobas and 13 lb. weight of gold, in all 563 lb. of gold; which, at the rate of 44l. *per* lb. amounts to 24,772l. Sterling. The king, on being told of this largess, expressed some surprise at it; but the prince easily satisfied him that he had only done what he ought to have done.—This sum appeared to be so inconsiderable, that it gave the king no apparent uneasiness.

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When Almanzor was exalted to the throne of his father, he became no less remarkable for the strict administration of justice, the judicious discharge of the functions of government, than for his piety and beneficence of disposition, his military prowess, and his knowledge in science. To each of these objects he regularly appropriated a determined portion of his time; but of all his pursuits literature was that in which he took the greatest delight. Learned men he invited from all quarters, treated them honourably, and purchased their writings with a munificent liberality. So much was learning cultivated by the Moors in general at that time, that during the course of his own reign only, he collected a library that consisted of fifty-five thousand seven hundred and twenty-two books, on all manner of sciences, and in various languages. In every part of the actions of this prince we discover the great and the good man; and they are described in the very short relation that is here given of them in the plainest and most perspicuous manner, without affectation of any sort.

In the course of the work *Abulcacim* gives a concise geographical description of the kingdom of Spain, as he himself had seen it, and of the manners and customs of the natives, with whom he had lived in great intimacy for many years.—He likewise describes, with singular perspicuity, the conduct of a war in Africa carried on by the generals of *Abilgualit*, son of Almanzor, to reduce some revolted governors of provinces to obedience, in which the devices adopted by the sagacious general to prevent the effusion of blood, and to effect his purpose with little expence or inconvenience to his master or the other party, are displayed with much distinctness, which discover a stretch of cautious and able military conduct, conjoined with mildness and moderation that has seldom been equalled in any country. The work concludes with a history of the division of Spain into many kingdoms, af-

ter the death of the family of Almanzor when each governor of a province erected it into an independant kingdom for himself. Altogether, this work comprehends the history of Spain from the year 712 to the year 763, during the greatest part of which time the writer himself had born an active part in most of the transactions he relates.

The stile is every where concise and clear, and the writer, throughout the whole, maintains a dignified character, and discovers, upon all occasions, the most scrupulous attention to truth. The translator *Miguel de Luna* accounts in a very satisfactory manner, in his preface, for the brevity of stile that every where prevails in this work, and, as he says, in other Arabic manuscripts: as printing, he observes, was not then known, it was a matter of great labour to multiply copies of books, it therefore became the principal study of writers to express their meaning in the fewest words possible. If other manuscripts, written about the same period, display the same elegance of taste, maturity of judgement, and candour of disposition, they deserve to be searched for with care.

In some future numbers of this work I shall present the reader with a few excerpts from this singular and valuable performance, which will open up a wide field for reflections to such of our readers as are anxious to trace the progress of the human mind, under various situations and circumstances.

ORIGIN OF DESPAIR.

HAPPINESS depends upon the gratification of our desires and passions. The happiness of Titus arose from the indulgence of a beneficent temper; Epaminondas reaped enjoyment from the love of his country: the love of fame was the source of Cæsar's felicity; and

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the gratification of grovelling appetites gave delight to Vitellius. It has also been observed that some one passion generally assumes a pre-eminence in the mind, and not only predominates over other appetites and desires, but contends with Reason, and is often victorious. In proportion as one passion gains strength, the rest languish and are enfeebled. They are seldom exercised; their gratifications yield transient pleasure, become of slight importance, are dispirited, and decay: Thus our happiness is attached to one ruling and ardent passion; but our reasonings concerning future events are weak and short-sighted: we form schemes of felicity that never can be realized; we cherish affections that can never be gratified.

If, therefore, the disappointed passion has been long encouraged—if the gay visions of Hope and Imagination have long administered to its violence,—if it is confirmed by habit in the temper and constitution,—if it has superseded the operation of other active principles, and so enervated their strength, its disappointment will be embittered;—and Sorrow, prevented by no other passion, will prey unabating on the desolate and abandoned spirits. We may also observe, that none are more liable to afflictions of this sort than those to whom Nature has given extreme sensibility. Alive to every impression, their feelings are exquisite; they are eager in every pursuit; their imaginations are vigorous, and well adapted to fire them. They live, for a time, in a state of anarchy, exposed to the inroads of every passion; and, though possessed of singular abilities, their conduct will be capricious. Glowing with the warmest affections, open, generous, and candid, yet prone to inconstancy, they are incapable of lasting friendship.—At length, by force of repeated indulgence, some one passion becomes habitual, occupies the heart, seizes the understanding, and impatient of resistance or controul, weakens or extirpates every opposing principle. Disappointment ensues; no passion remains to administer

comfort; and the original sensibility which prompted this disposition will render the mind more susceptible of anguish, and yield it a prey to despondency. We ought, therefore, to beware of limiting our felicity to the gratification of any individual passion. Nature, ever wise and provident, has endowed us with capacities for various pleasures, and has opened to us many fountains of happiness;—let no tyrannic passion, let no rigid doctrine deter thee;—drink of the streams, be moderate, and be grateful. *A. M.*

Historical Disquisitions on the British Constitution,

PART IV.

[Continued from Vol. V. page 165.]

OF the constitutional history of Britain, during the time of the Saxons, few particulars can with certainty be known; but from incidental circumstances it may easily be inferred that the constituent members of legislation and government were neither well understood, nor their respective rights and privileges accurately defined. The very deed upon which William the Norman founded his claim to the British throne, (the will of Edward,) is, alone, a sufficient evidence of these facts.

After the conquest, the history of England is involved in less obscurity; but every fact upon record, respecting the constitution; serves to prove that our forefathers were then entirely in the dark with regard to many constitutional privileges, now fully ascertained, and that they only gradually groped their way, correcting errors as they came into view, and supplying defects when they were felt, till by imperceptible degrees that goodly establishment was formed which we with justice admire: not as perfect, indeed, but as more compleat than any other which has hitherto ap-

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peared, and which, by attention and care, may be still brought nearer and nearer to that perfection we incessantly ought to aim at. It is not, therefore, by looking back, and implicitly striving to adopt the imperfect institutions of our forefathers, as many persons have asserted, that our constitution is to be improved; but by looking forward towards still higher attainments, that we ought to proceed. This will be fully proved by the few facts that follow, which might have been made ten times more numerous, did the limits of our work permit.

National Councils how called.

So indefinite were the ideas of mankind with respect to the great national assembly, that it did not, even till a very late period, receive a distinct appropriated name. A session of parliament has been denoted indifferently by the names *curia regalis*—*curia imperiales*—*curia solennes*—*curia magna*—*congregationis*—*concilium principum*—*conciliuin generale*—*conventus*—*conventus generalis*—*conventus publicus*—*placitum*—*synodum*;—and in Germany, where the same system of government prevailed, *solius Germanie concilium*. It is now there called *Diet*, in Britain a *Parliament*, in France a *National Assembly*, and in Spain and Portugal *Cortes*.

The constituent members of that national assembly were in like manner indifferently called *populus*—*principes*—*proceres*—*primores*—*duces*—*patres*, &c.—scarcely any thing, in short, was fixed and ascertained respecting them.

Mode of holding Parliaments.

They were not more uncertain as to the name, than they were indeterminate as to the mode of holding their parliaments. Nothing is now better understood than that the King cannot be present during the debates in parliament, and for good and obvious reasons; but for many years after the conquest this regulation had evidently not been adopted. Thus, in the year 1194, Richard I. sat in his parliament at Nottingham, and along with him, as many assert, his mother Elea-

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nor also *, when he demanded a supply of his nobles for the prosecution of the holy war (a). Again, in the year 1246, King Henry III. having summoned a parliament to meet at London, conferred with the bishops apart, the earls and barons apart, and the abbots and priors apart, in order to find out their respective sentiments respecting the business under consideration (b). Even as late as the year 1297, in the 25th of Edward I. the following remarkable conversation is said to have happened in a parliament holden at Salisbury, which gives a very curious picture of the manners and spirit of the times. "The King insisted that most of the nobility there present should attend him to the French war, but many excused themselves; whereat Edward, being greatly moved, plainly told them that they should go, or he would give their lands to those that would. The nobles were very much offended at this bluntness in the King; and some of the chiefest, viz. the Earls of Hereford and Marshal, told the King that they were ready to attend him if he went in person, otherwise they would not go. The Marshal added, that if the King went, he should willingly attend him in his wars, and take his hereditary post in the vanguard of the army. But, says the King, *You shall go, whether I go or not. I am not so bound, quoth the Earl, neither do I purpose to go without you.* The King then, in a great rage, said, *By God, Sir Earl, you shall either go or hang.* And, *Sir King, by the same oath, replied the Earl boldly, I will neither go nor hang.* And so they both left the King abruptly, without taking any leave, and the parliament broke up without doing any farther business (c).

Constituent Members of the Great Council.

If the forms of procedure in business were then vague and ill ascertained, in regard to the royal person, the

* This was evidently a remain of the old practice in Germany.

(a) Par. Hist. v. 1. p. 17. (b) Ibid. p. 47. (c) Ibid. v. 1. p. 105.

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(c) Ibid. v. 1. p. 105.

practice was still more indeterminate for many centuries, with respect to the constituent members of that assembly.

It is well known that during the reign of the first princes of the Norman line, the barons, or tenants in *capite*, and the clergy alone, were summoned to parliament, and that it was only at a later period, and to serve particular purposes, that the knights of shires and burgesses were summoned to parliament.

During the reign of Henry I. several meetings of the *Great Men of the Kingdom* were called, the most remarkable of which was that in the year 1106, when his brother Duke Robert came over from Normandy on a visit to Henry; who dreading that he would lay claim to the crown, summoned the chiefs of the realm to meet him, when he cajoled them with a smooth speech from the throne, the first royal speech in parliament that is preserved on record. But this, and other assemblies held by this King, only consisted of the clergy and barons*. The same may be said of the conventions called by Stephen and Henry II. which last summoned a great council to meet him at Clarendon, which consisted, according to the distinct enumeration of M. Paris, of the archbishops, bishops, abbots, priors, earls, barons, and nobles of the realm (d). The parliament summoned by Richard I. to meet him at Westminster, anno 1189, consisted of the bishops, earls, and barons of the realm (e). John summoned his nobles, which was called a parliament, to meet him at Oxford anno 1204 (f). In the year 1224 Henry III. met the archbishops, bishops, earls, barons, and many others, at Northampton (g); and in 1232 he met the nobles, as

* Eodem anno 1107, factus est conventus episcoporum et abbatum, pariter et magnatum Londoniis in palatio regis.—M. Paris.

Conventus omnium episcoporum abbatum, et procerum.—Sim. Dunelm. anno 1107.

1116. Conventus optimatum et baronum totius Angliæ.—Sim. Dunelm.

(d) M. Paris. (e) Chron. Brompt. (f) M. Paris. (g) Ibid.

well prelates as laics, at Westminster (*b*) in 1233; at Oxford, and at Westminster the *barons* only are named (*i*). In 1234 at Westminster, *bishops* and *barons* (*j*). In 1236, at Merton, *bishops* and *peers* (*k*). In 1237 *archbishops, bishops, abbots, installed priors, earls* and *barons* (*l*). Another at Westminster in the same year, consisting only of the *peers* (*m*). In the year 1242, consisting of the whole nobility of England, as well prelates as earls and barons (*n*). From these, and many other records that might be quoted, it appears that nothing was determined as to the precise form of parliament, or its constituent members; but that in general the notion prevailed that the King ought, in difficult cases, to consult the *great men* of his kingdom, whom he might summon at what time, and in what manner he pleased.

The people had at length, however, perceived that inconveniencies had arisen from this discretionary power in the crown, and wished to correct them.

During the long and weak reign of Henry III, and the more warlike princes that succeeded him, the great object wanted from parliament, was money.—The kings were in want of money, nor had they yet acquired, in this country, so much authority as to be able to extort it by force. The prevailing idea of the times, was, that nothing except personal services of the tenants of the crown, *in capite*, and the great feudal incidents, could be demanded by the king as a due; and that all other levies of money must be voluntarily accorded by the individuals who were to pay it. Upon that principle, we find that in 1255, the nobles refuse to grant an aid under the pretext that “the whole of the peers had not been summoned to parliament (*o*),” and upon the same principle, we observe, that for many years afterwards, the clergy, the

(*b*) M. Paris. (*i*) Ibid. (*j*) Parl. Hist. v. i. p. 31. (*k*) Annal. Burton, p. 287. (*l*) M. Paris. (*m*) Parl. Hist. p. 36. (*n*) M. Paris. (*o*) Parl. Hist. v. i. p. 57.

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p. 31. (i) Annal.
36. (n) M. Paris.

nobility, and the other orders of the state, granted each a different degree of supply, as suited their humour at the time. Thus, anno 1295, the laity gave an 11th, the clergy a 10th, and the merchants a 7th(p.) Again, anno 1306, the prelates, earls, barons, and other great men, and also knights of the shires, grant an aid of a 30th (q): the citizens, burgesses, and others of the king's demesnes, grant a 20th part of their moveables, and so on in almost every grant in those days the rate is different on each order of the people.

It is not a little curious to trace the gradual progress of ideas, and to mark the influence that these had on the conduct of government. While the notions above cited prevailed, it was sometimes difficult to get one part of the parliament to comply, while another part of that assembly was disposed to agree with the wishes of the crown, and no doubt this gave rise to much disquietude and various intrigues, which have now for ever eluded our notice. Some of the arts that were adopted to induce compliance, are, however, still upon record. Thus we find, that in the year 1301 the nobles were detained in parliament after the knights and burgesses were suffered to depart(r). In the year 1372 the knights of shires are discharged; but the burgesses detained "in order to induce them to give a farther subsidy (s)." This stretch of power would soon be considered as a grievance, and call for a remedy.

It was probably with a view to get a tallage of the cities in a more pleasing way to them than that which had been heretofore practised, and to answer other purposes at the same time, that Simon de Montfort first summoned burgesses to parliament, anno 1264; an innovation in the constitution that does not seem to have been a measure of great popularity at the time, though it would be tolerated by the other constituent

(p) Parl. Hist. v. i. p. 93. (q) *ib.* p. 133. (r) *ib.* p. 118. (s) *ib.* p. 313.

members of parliament, as it would then be understood they met there for no other purpose than to vote from themselves what sums they were willing to pay to government on extraordinary occasions, and though it would be deemed burdensome to the cities, yet it was so much preferable to the modes that had been formerly adopted for forcing money from them, that the inhabitants would submit to it as a lesser evil.

That it would prove, in this way, agreeable to the cities and boroughs, we may conjecture from the following fact narrated by Brady: He observes that, anno, 1294 (1). The king caused a tallage to be assessed without common consent, by commissioners, on all cities, burghs, and demesnes in every county of England, either individually [*capitativim*] or in common, and gave particular direction, that the tallage of Norwich should be assessed at 400l. Before that time he remarks, "the cities used to compound with the kings officers, or justices, and make what bargain they could." No wonder therefore, they should be well pleased at an alteration that promised to give them a vote in the disposal of their own money.

The real state of the cities, at that time, in regard to assessments, will be made still more clear by the following particular, specified by the same author. "Anno no 1294 (23 Ed. 1) the clergy grant a moiety of their benefices; the earls, barons, knights, *et omnes alii de regno nostro*; that is, the tenants in *Capite* grant a tenth; for that the cities and boroughs were not included under the general denomination of *omnes alii de regno nostro*, he justly observes, appears by the following deed still preserved on record: *Rex dilecto et fideli suo Roberto de Retford, salutem, cum cives et probi homines London, &c.* that is, "The king to his well beloved and faithful Robert de Retford, greeting. Whereas,

(1) Brady p. 35.

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"our good citizens, and good men of London, have
"willingly granted to us, towards maintaining the
"war, a sixth part of their moveable goods, that
"they might show an ensample to other of our demesne
"towns to make the like, we have assigned you to
"demand a like sixth part on every of our demesne
"cities and other towns in the counties of Kent, Sur-
"rey, Sussex, and Southampton, according to the
"taxation of a tenth now granted to us, in our king-
"dom; and therefore we commend you, that taking
"the sheriffs of places, ye personally go to every of
"our cities and demesne towns, and diligently enquire,
"and *effectually induce* the men of the said cities and
"towns, *by such means as you think expedient*, to give
"and grant to us the said sixth part, according to the
"taxation aforesaid; and what you do herein, you
"shall signify to us, or our treasurer, and barons of ex-
"chequer without delay. In witness of which, &c.
"the 21st November, the 23d year of our reign (u)."

What a wretched state must a people have been in
who were liable to such arbitrary exactions? No
wonder that they should adopt any alteration in regard
to this particular, with pleasure. This evil was, like
many others, gradually corrected, as we shall soon see;
but does it not argue an extreme perversion of judg-
ment, for men with such facts before their eyes, to
insist upon, and argue for the propriety of reforming our
constitution, *by bringing it back to its former state?* We
shall soon see other as powerful reasons for wishing to
avoid this conduct.

I shall only here advert to the necessity of guarding
against being misled by terms that accidentally have
been employed in ancient deeds. Those who contend
that the phrase *omnes alii de regno nostro*, clearly and
decisively included every inhabitant of this kingdom,
except the clergy, earls, barons, and knights, who

(u) Brady, Bur. p. 31.

had been formerly specially enumerated, as the phrase might well import, would reason, as appears by this authentic document, in a very improper manner, therefore this source of error should be carefully guarded against.

(To be continued.)

A Turkish Anecdote.

JUST at the breaking out of the late Russian war, a consul from that kingdom was going to depart to his own home, from Patrasso, where he then resided. As soon as it was publicly known that hostilities had commenced, the rabble instantly flew to the house of the consul, and would most certainly have destroyed it; but by the timely and generous assistance of the Bashaw, who brought with him a trusty body of well-disciplined janissaries, whose steady exertions appeased the dangerous tumult; and it was with the utmost difficulty that the Bashaw could save the lives of the Russian and his family, and find them a place of safety in his own house. This settled, he directly, with that zeal peculiar to his character, caused a firman to be published from the port, most strictly forbidding his countrymen to insult the Russian merchants, or molest their property; and, in case of disobedience, the delinquents to be punished with the utmost severity of the law. The result attending such honourable proceedings was natural enough, the greatest part of the mutineers retired, and those taken were lodged in prison.

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The Prophecy of Apollo concerning Ptolemy Philadelphus, translated from the Greek of Callimachus, by Dr Tytler of Brechin.*

— Apollo fees

A future God appear, by Fate's decrees,
The mightiest prince of Soter's royal race,
To rule this favour'd Isle, his native place †.
To him the willing world shall tribute bring;
Green isles and inland states obey the King,
And bow before him, in succeeding times,
His pow'r extending from yon eastern climes
To distant shores, where Sol descending leads
Beneath the western waves his wearied steeds.
From Macedonia comes the man divine,
And in the son the father's virtues shine.
The glorious prince shall be my future care,
And I the great companion of his war,
When, o'er the Celtic shores, with wild alarms,
Gigantic nations clash barbarian arms;
The last of Titan's sons, a furious throng,
From th' utmost west shall swiftly pour along,
And rushing dreadful, Grecian plains o'erflow,
Thick as the driving rain, or falling snow;
Or num'rous as yon' silver lamps of night,
That fill their urns with Jove's ethereal light.
From Locrian forts and undefended towns,
From Delphic mountains and Crissæan downs,
From all the midland cities far around,
Deep groans shall issue; when along the ground
Wide wasting flames devour the rip'ning grain,
And all the labours of the peaceful swain.
Nor these shall hear alone the fierce alarms
Of hostile armies sheath'd in shining arms,

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* By the favour of a friend, from the edition of that work
now printing at London.

† The Isle of Cos.

Around my temple ; but with terror view
 Th' impetuous Gauls their impious course pursue,
 With bloody fauchions, belts and bucklers, stain
 My holy tripods, and my cave profane.
 For this, fierce war shall rage at my command,
 And wreak my vengeance on th' unhallow'd band ;
 Of conquer'd armour half shall deck my shrine,
 And half, the prize of valour, shall be thine,
 Illustrious Prince ! when, midst attacks and fire,
 On Nilus banks the vanquish'd hosts expire.
 Thus fate foretells the glory thou shalt gain,
 O Philadelphus ! in thy wond'rous reign,
 For which, immortal King ! thou still shalt pay
 Unceasing honours to the God of Day,
 And future ages o'er the world shall raise,
 Apollo's name and Philadelphus' praise.

Sonnet.

THE incense breathing lily rears her head,
 On the fair bosom of the dark green vale ;
 While youthful zephyr born along the gale,
 Steals her perfume, and wantons on her bed.

The new born rose, all dripping with the dew,
 With magic spell attracts the poet's eye ;
 Amidst the lucid tears, its blooming hue
 Looks lovelier, and assumes a deeper die.

'Twas thus of late I saw a lovely maid,
 Pure as the silver lily of the vale ;
 But syren pleasure blew her swelling gale,
 And o'er her bosom cast a sombre shade.
 Now like this blushing rose the fair appears,
 Her vernal cheeks suffus'd in silv'ry tears.

BIRTHA.

For the Bee.

Sweet Jean.—A song, from a volume which was intended for the press, but not published.

Tune, Tweedside.

NAE lassie I think worth my care,
But Jean wha's the roast o' ilk swain,
She's young, kind, sweet, modest, and fair,
Beside her I never loo'd name:
Gin she will consent to be mine,
Altho' I am forc'd to live mean,
Nae wife shall be buskit mair fine,
Than my bonny rosy sweet Jean.

Whiles castles I big in the air,
An' wow but I mak' myself fain,
Whiles I am quite sunk in despair,
Till I see sick notions are vain;
Lang as I can herd on the bent,
An' dance to a pipe on the green,
I'll always be blythe and content,
To sing o'er the praise o' sweet Jean.

What signify's titles an' gear,
They only breed sorrow and strife;
The man wha has nae los to fear,
Lives far the true happiest life:
Sae happen what will, I ne'er care;
For filler, nor land, I ne'er green;
Content I will be wi' my skair,
Gin I get young bonny sweet Jean.

I care nae for friends nor for foes
Whan early on a' summer morn,
I meet Jean on sweet Blackford braes,
Contented an' free frae a' scorn;
I there set her down by my side,
A song to her praise then I sing,
That tells her, whan she is my bride,
I'll happier be than a king.

A—S—

Prices of Cattle in England.

IN every branch of rural oeconomy Britain has made rapid advances during the present century,—but in no one department has she so far outstripped all nations that exist, or have existed, as in the art of rearing domestic animals; nor does the superiority of the British constitution appear under any other point of view so remarkably conspicuous, as in that energy of enterprise which individuals exert, from the certainty of deriving benefit from every useful discovery they shall make, either in art or manufactures, or rural oeconomics. In other countries attempts are made, by means of premiums, to draw an unwilling people forward; while the fear of want, arising from some unlooked for oppressive regulation, for ever keeps them back. In Britain, men press forward of themselves, and purchase at an exorbitant price whatever articles they think their ingenuity can turn to their own emolument. Let facts speak for themselves. The following account of the sale of a breeder's stock, were it not authenticated beyond a possibility of doubt, would not be believed in any nation on the globe. To render this phenomenon credible, by foreign readers especially, the following short notices may prove satisfactory.

About thirty years ago, Mr Bakewell of Leicestershire, a man of strong natural talents, and accurate observation, having remarked that domestic animals in general produced others possessing qualities nearly of the same nature with themselves, set himself to select such only for breeding from as possessed qualities that promised to make the greatest possible return to the breeder for a given quantity of food they consumed. He knew that some parts of the meat were reckoned more delicate, and sold for a higher price in the market than others. And he remarked that some animals, of the same species, had a much larger quantity of the valuable parts of the carcase in proportion to its whole weight, than others. He set himself therefore to select the best of this sort, wherever he could find them. He also remarked that some individuals, of the same species, had a much greater tendency to fatten under the same management than others; so that by searching for individuals in which these two qualities that were conjoined in the highest degree,

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and rearing from those of the same stock; he produced a breed that were upon the whole much more valuable to the farmer than any other breed. Others seeing his success, were desirous of imitating him; but as he had got the start of all others, it was only a very few who could nearly equal him, and therefore they became very desirous of having some of his breed; this introduced the practice of lending bulls and rams for a season; but so jealous was Mr Bakewell of preserving his superiority, that though he would lend, or sometimes sell males, he would on no account part with the best females of his breed. Thus it happened that when by any accident the stock of a careful breeder, who followed a similar plan, and which in general were much esteemed, were brought to sale, the competition for these became very great, which raised their prices to an extraordinary degree; such a breeder was Mr Fowler of Little Rollright, in Leicesterhire, whose stock, after his death, were brought to sale;—the following are the prices at which his bulls and cows, and ewes and rams, sold for May 14. 1791.

*An account of the sale of part of the live stock of
Mr Robert Fowler of Little Rollright, near
Chipping Norton. Sold by Auction, by Robert
Parry 1791.*

Lots of Cattle sold, with the Names of the Purchasers,
and Prices they sold for.

BULLS.

	L.	s.
1 Garrick, five years old—Mr Stone, of Quarndon, Leicesterhire,	215	5
2 Sultan, two years old—Mr Freeman, Hircott, and Mr Eden, Norton, Gloucestershire,	220	10
3 Warrington, two years old—Mr Michael Buckley, Normanton, Nottinghamshire,	215	5
4 Young Twopenny, two years old—Messrs Cox, Harrison, and Macey, Leicesterhire,	68	5
5 Young Garrick, one year old—Mr Fowler,	43	7

COWS.

	L.	s.
6 Young Brindled Beauty, two years old—Messrs Knowles and Co.	66	3
7 Pillion Rump, alias Old Skew Horns—Mr Fowler,	23	2
8 Bull calf,—Mr Baker, Farmcott, Gloucestershire,	25	4
9 Great Brindled Cow,—Mr Fowler,	31	10
10 Nell,—Mr W. Freeman, Hitcott, Gloucestershire,	38	17
11 Nell's bull calf,—Mr Joseph Allcock, Longborough, Gloucestershire,	45	3
12 Neil's White Back, three years old—Lord Harborough, Leicestershire,	89	5
13 Young Brind, three years old—Mr William Huskfield, Over Norton, Oxon,	32	11
14 A bull named C. one year old—Mr J. Moore, Charlecotte, Warwickshire,	52	10
15 Long Horn Beauty—Mr Francis Robbins, Lillington, Warwickshire,	44	2
16 Long Horned Beauty's cow calf—Mr Richard Robbins, Lillington, Warwickshire,	22	1
17 Nancy,—Mr Brookes, Wolvers Hill, Warwickshire,	52	10
18 Brindled Short Tail—Mr Paget, Croxhall, Leicestershire,	43	1
19 Beauty—Mr Fowler,	52	10
20 A mottled yearling calf—Mr John Zouch, Milcotte, Warwickshire,	27	6
21 Young Beauty.—Messrs Knowles and Co.	34	13
22 A light coloured Welch nurse—Mr Fowler,	8	8

BULLS.

23 Young Shakespeare—Mr Fowler,	29	8
24 A bull called A, one year old—Lord Harborough, Leicestershire,	57	10
25 A bull called B, one year old—Mr William Seaton, Seafby, near Doncaster, Yorkshire,	85	1
26 Young Sultan, one year old—Messrs Cox, Harrison, and Macey, Leicestershire,	210	0
27 A bull called D, one year old—Mr Thomas Clarke, of Lockington, Leicestershire.	88	4

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PRICES OF CATTLE.

79

	L. s.		L. s.
—Messrs		28 A bull called E, one year old—Mr John Zouch,	
66 3		Millcotte, Warwickshire,	152 5
Fowler,	23 2	29 A bull called F, one year old—Mr Francis Robbins,	
shire,	25 4	Lillington, Warwickshire,	105 0
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arborough,	157 10		
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nas Clarke,	88 4		

COWS.

30 Brindled Beauty,—Messrs Knowles and Co.	273 0
31 Garrick's sister,—Messrs Knowles and Co.	120 15
32 Walthington's mother,—Mr Astley, Oditone Hall,	
Leicesterhire,	194 5
33 Long horn Nancy,—W. Freeman, Gloucestershire,	110 5
34 Spotted Nancy,—Mr Fowler,	84 0
35 Black heifer, three years old—M. Knowles & Co.	141 15
36 Garrick's daughter, 3 years old—Mr Cox, Derbyshire	47 5
37 Young Nell,—Mr James Moore, Warwickshire,	126 0
38 Young Nell's calf,—Lord Harborough, Leicestersh.	31 10
39 Broken Horn Beauty,—Mr Eden, Gloucestershire,	46 4
40 Red Cow,—Mr Cox, Derbyshire,	76 13
41 Nell's daughter,—Messrs Knowles and Co.	136 10
42 Cow calf,—Lord Harborough, Leicesterhire,	43 1
43 Sall,—Mr Richard Robbins, Warwickshire,	63 0
44 Douk Horn,—Mr E. Higgins, Warwickshire,	81 18
45 Blue heifer, four years old,—S. Huckfield, Oxon,	110 5
46 Brindled Finch,—Mr Eden, Gloucestershire,	42 0
47 Brindled Finch's calf,—Mr Baker, Gloucestershire,	19 19
48 White backed cow,—Mr Eden, Gloucestershire,	81 18
49 Cow calf,—Mr S. Huckfield, Oxon,	32 11
50 A heifer, 2 years old,—Mr Freeman, Gloucestershire,	52 10
51 Broken Horn, 2 years old—Mr Seaton, Yorkshire,	69 6
52 A nurse, 5 years old—Mr Blundell, Warwickshire,	8 18
53 A ditto,—Rev. Mr Hastings, Warwickshire,	11 0

53 Cattle. Total price, L. 4289 4

SHEEP STOCK.

54 Ram,—Mr W. Smith, Norton, Gloucestershire,	44 2
55 Ditto,—Mr Kimmer, North Cerney, ditto	45 3
56 Ditto,—Mr John Davis, Rollright, Oxon,	31 10
57 Ditto,—Mr Smith, Ford, Gloucestershire,	35 14

	L.	s.
58 Ditto,—Mr Howes, Winsor, ditto,	30	9
59 Ditto,—Mr W. Davis, Castleton Hills, Oxon,	16	16
60 Ditto,—Mr Fowler,	21	0
61 Ditto,—Mr S. Huckfield, Choice Hill, Oxon,	11	11
62 Ditto,—Mr J. Phillips, Dorn, Worcesterhire,	25	4
63 Ditto,—Mr Oliver, Nanton, Gloucestershire,	10	10
64 Ditto,—Mr Fowler,	10	10
65 Ditto,—Mr T. Birch, Elmfcote, Warwickshire,	16	16
66 Ditto,—Mr N. Kench, Enstone, Oxon,	16	16
67 Ditto,—Mr Fowler,	16	16
68 Ditto,—Mr N. Kench, Enstone, Oxon,	17	17
69 Six ewes.—Mr S. Huckfield, Choice Hill, Oxon,	55	10
70 Ditto,—Mr W. Freeman, Hitecott, Gloucestershire,	52	12
71 Ditto,—Mr Smith, Ford, ditto,	60	0
72 Ditto,—Mr Pratt, Banbury, Oxon,	47	11
73 Ditto,—Mr Robinson, Northamptonshire,	54	0
74 Ditto,—Mr Gill, Cleve Peppard, Wiltshire,	63	0
75 Ditto,—Mr Fowler,	44	2
76 Ditto,—Mr Penrice, Salford, Warwickshire,	45	22
77 Ditto,—Mr Smith, Ford, Gloucestershire,	44	2
78 Ditto,—Mr Robinson, Northamptonshire,	40	16
79 Ditto,—Mr Joseph Baker, Gloucestershire,	27	18
80 Ditto,—Mr Fowler,	31	10
81 Ram,—Messrs King and Creek, Oxon,	19	19
82 Ditto,—Ditto,	13	13
83 Ditto,—Mr Baughan, Rollright, Oxon,	12	12
84 Ditto,—Messrs King and Creek, Oxon,	12	12
85 Ditto,—Mr Pratt, Banbury, ditto,	18	18
86 Ditto,—Mr Wells, Nill, near Hooknorton, Oxon,	8	18
87 Ditto,—G. Perrot, Esq; Worcesterhire,	9	3
88 Ditto,—Ditto,	10	10
89 Ditto,—Mr Chandler, Warwickshire,	9	9
90 Ditto,—Mr Haynas, Gloucestershire,	14	14
91 Ditto,—Mr Davis, Rollright, Oxon,	10	10
92 Ditto,—Mr N. Kench, Enstone, ditto,	8	8
93 Ditto,—Mr Davis, Rollright, ditto,	8	18
94 Ditto,—Mr Marshall, Gloucestershire,	14	11
95 Ditto,—Mr Chandler, Warwickshire,	17	6
96 Six theaves,—Mr Robinson, Northamptonshire,	56	14
97 Ditto,—G. Perrot, Esq; Worcesterhire,	42	0

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1791.

PRICES OF CATTLE.

81

	L.	s.		L.	s.
Oxon,	30	9	98 Ditto,—Mr William Smith, Gloucestershire,	40	19
-	16	16	99 Ditto,—Mr Bosworth, Northamptonshire,	37	16
-	21	0	100 Ditto,—Mr Robinson, ditto,	30	0
Oxon,	11	11	101 Eight theaves,—Mr W. Freeman, Gloucestershire,	33	12
shire,	25	4	102 Ram,—Mr John Lyne, Ditto,	10	10
shire,	10	10	103 Ditto,—Mr Fowler,	15	15
shire,	10	10	104 Ditto,—ditto,	10	0
shire,	16	16	105 Ditto,—Mr Edward Smith, Oxon,	23	2
-	16	16	106 Ditto,—Mr Thomas Brain, Warwickshire,	8	18
-	16	16	107 Ditto,—Mr Thomas Curtis, Oxon,	7	7
-	17	17	108 Ditto,—Mr John Smith, Warwickshire,	8	18
l, Oxon,	55	10	109 Ditto,—Mr John Vyfe, Oxon	11	0
cestershire,	52	12	110 Ditto,—Mr John Benton, Gloucestershire,	8	18
-	60	0	111 Ditto,—Mr Robert Lyne, ditto,	15	15
-	47	11	112 Ditto,—Mr John Benton, ditto,	6	11
e,	54	0	113 Ditto,—Mr Hiron, Swerford, Oxon,	21	0
shire,	63	0	114 Ditto,—Mr William Harbidge, Gloucestershire,	13	13
-	44	2	115 Ditto,—Mr Samuel Tagg, Oxon,	12	1
shire,	45	22	116 Ditto,—Mr Bateman, Gloucestershire,	11	0
e,	44	2	117 Ditto,—Mr John Handy, ditto,	7	17
re,	40	16	118 Ditto,—Mr Thomas Curtis, Oxon,	8	18
shire,	27	18	119 Ditto,—Mr William Davis, ditto,	8	0
-	31	10	120 Ditto,—Mr Davis, Rollright, ditto,	8	8
-	19	19	121 Ditto,—Mr W. Davis, ditto,	8	8
-	13	13	122 Five barren Ewes,—Mr John Timms, ditto,	12	10
-	12	12	123 Ditto,—John Dark, Esq; Gloucestershire,	15	0
-	12	12	124 Ditto,—Mr Giles Hutchings, Oxon,	15	15
-	18	18	125 Ditto,—G. Perrott, Esq; Worcesterhire,	14	7
ton, Oxon,	8	18	126 Eight barren Theaves,—ditto, ditto,	17	16
e,	9	3	127 Seven ditto,—Mr Ruffel, Oxon,	11	18
-	10	10	128 Ten weather Togs,—G. Perrott, Esq; Worcesterfh.	15	10
-	9	9	129 Eight ditto,—Mr Edward Summer, Oxon,	10	0
-	14	14	130 Five sheer hogs,—Mr Richard Walker, ditto,	8	10
-	10	10	131 A Ram,—Mr William Wheeler, Gloucestershire,	5	5
-	8	8	132 Ditto,—Mr John Smith, Warwickshire,	9	0
-	18	18	133 Ditto,—Mr A. Lampett, Oxon,	11	0
-	14	11			
-	17	6			
tonthire,	56	14			
e,	42	0			

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	L.	s.	d.
134 Ditto,—Mr John Izod, ditto,	6	1	0
135 Ditto,—Mr John Biddle, Warwickshire,	10	10	0
136 Ditto,—Mr Francis Holland, Worcestershire,	9	9	0
137 Ditto,—Mr Wells, ditto,	5	10	0
138 Ditto,—Mr Edward Summer, Oxon,	5	0	0
139 Six ewe tugs,—Messrs King and Creek, Oxon,	35	10	0
140 Ditto,—William Walker, Esq; Lincolnshire,	21	0	0
141 Ditto,—Mr William Freeman, Gloucestershire,	24	0	0
142 Ditto,—William Walker, Esq; Lincolnshire,	18	0	0
143 Ditto,—ditto, ditto,	12	22	0
144 Ten ewe tugs,—Mr C. Chinor, Northamptonshire,	21	0	0
145 A ram hog,—Messrs King and Creek, Oxon,	53	11	0
146 Ditto,—Mr Richard Wells, ditto,	35	12	0
147 Ditto,—Mr William Wilks, Warwickshire,	27	6	0
148 Ditto,—Mr Edward Haynes, Gloucestershire,	14	14	0
149 Ditto,—Messrs King and Creek, Oxon,	12	12	0
150 Ditto,—Mr Samuel Huckfield, Oxon,	12	12	0
151 Ditto,—Mr Fairbrother, Oxon,	17	17	0
152 Ditto,—Mr Humphrey Fowler, ditto,	22	1	0
153 Ditto,—Mr John Smith, Warwickshire,	15	15	0
154 Ditto,—Mr Thomas Braine, Long Compton, ditto,	15	4	0
155 Ditto,—G. Perrott, Esq; Worcestershire,	36	15	0
156 Ditto,—Mr Hickman, Slaughter, Gloucestershire,	10	10	0
157 Ditto,—Mr Osbourne, Broadway, Worcestershire,	15	4	0
158 Ditto,—Mr Lyne, Batsford, Gloucestershire,	12	12	0
159 Ditto,—Mr William Davis, Oxon,	10	10	0
160 Ditto,—Mr Groves, Kingleat, Salop,	14	3	0
161 Ditto,—Mr William Foster, Bucknell, Oxon,	10	10	0
162 Ditto,—Phillip Grelley, Esq; Worcestershire,	13	2	0
163 Ditto,—Mr John Smith, Warwickshire,	7	17	0
164 Ditto,—Mr Gibbs, Whichford, ditto,	5	15	0
165 Ditto,—Mr John Smith, Barcheston, ditto,	7	17	0
166 Ditto,—Mr Beaman, Addlestrap, Gloucestershire,	8	18	0
167 Ditto,—Mr Richard Gibbs, Ascott, Warwickshire,	6	16	0
168 Ditto,—Mr William Foster, Bucknell, Oxon,	5	15	0
169 Ditto,—Mr John Smith, Barcheston, Warwickshire,	6	6	0
170 Ditto,—Mr John Izod, Bucknell, Oxon,	7	7	0
171 Ditto,—Mr Stephen Rathaw, ditto,	5	5	0

Nov. 16.

1791.

PRICES OF CATTLE.

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shire, 12 12

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Oxon, 10 10

hire, 13 2

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ditto, 7 17

cestershire, 8 18

Warwickshire, 6 16

Oxon, 5 15

Warwickshire, 6 6

7 7

5 5

Rams 84,—Ewes 92,—Theaves 53,—Tegs 58,—Sheer-
hogs 5,—In all 292.

Total price of Sheep L. 2304 6
— Cattle 4289 4

In whole L. 6593 10

Mr Arthur Young, from whose Annals of Agriculture the above is copied, makes the following observations on this account :

"There are some circumstances respecting this singular sale which deserve noting. The farm of Rollright is between 300 and 400 acres, which let at 210l. a-year; the value of which, at 30 years purchase, is 6300l. Now it is unique in the history of agriculture, that two articles of live stock only, without horses, hogs, implements, feed, or tillage, should sell for more than the fee-simple of the farm would have done; yet I was assured in Leicestershire, that it was let at its value. And it further deserves noting, that land of 10s. an acre does not seem by the rent to be of a quality superior to common soils, and consequently, that the notion heard of in some counties, that this sort of stock will do only on a very rich land does not seem to be well founded.

"Here are 15 head of bulls and cows that sold for 2464l. or 164. each on an average; a greater value than ever was yet known probably in the world.

"The sheep were by no means capital; Mr Fowler not having paid the same attention to them, nor been equally fortunate in procuring males; yet here are rams that sell at above 40l. and ewes that rise to 10l. whence it is plain, that though a breeder of this species may, on comparison with certain individuals, be very inferior, yet he will be employed on a stock that, compared with all others, will rise to an unrivalled value."

To the above, allow me to add, that in regard to sheep especially, Mr Fowler's breed is far inferior to that of Mr Bakewell, who has this season let two rams at the amazing sum of 1200 guineas a season.—This in every other part of the world would be accounted altogether incredible.

Eulogy on Early Rising.

IF the practice of rising betimes can be proved to be universally beneficial to mankind;—if it can be shown to have been always mentioned with the highest encomiums;—and if it can be made out, that the greatest as well as the best of men were early risers, nothing farther needs to be said in recommendation of it.

Now, that it contributes, and indeed universally, to the happiness of the world, will appear from the following considerations :

In the first place, is life itself a happiness, or, if you like the term better, a real enjoyment?—This none will deny ; and therefore, as early rising is really an addition to life, I mean, to active and conscious life, it must be an additional enjoyment, which every one that pleases may, and which every early riser actually does enjoy.

Another argument, to prove the advantage of early rising, may be drawn from its contributing to the health, activity, and vigour of animal life. It not only adds to, and, in a manner, lengthens the duration of life ; but heightens, so to speak, its very degree and reality ;—all the powers of human nature are thereby quickened, and made to perform their several functions with greater force and energy ; the consequence of which is a considerable augmentation of actual enjoyment, that otherwise would have been lost.

Again, if we turn our thoughts to rational life, we shall find no small advantage resulting from early rising. What season so proper for performing the duties of religion and piety ? are not our minds then composed, calm, and serene ? does not the dawning and return of the day naturally inspire us with great and exalted ideas of the great Creator and Governor of the world, who first ordained, and still preserves the delightful vicissitudes of day and night, so admirably calculated to promote the happiness of all the inhabitants of this globe ? Is not every passion then hushed, and the mind in the best frame imaginable, for paying to the great God of nature that adora-

Nov. 16.

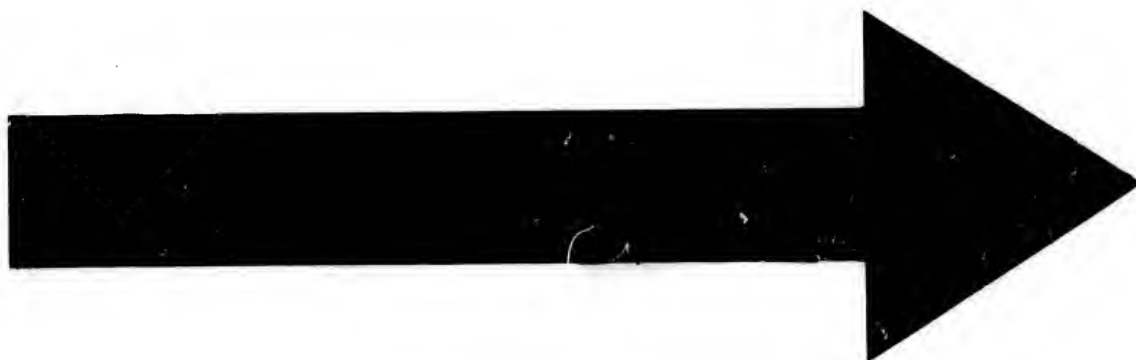
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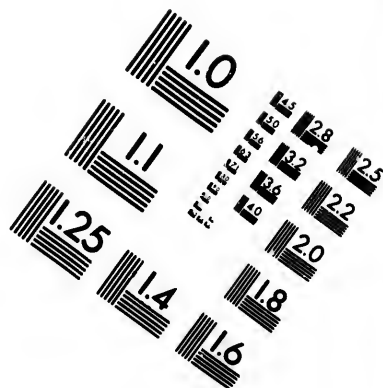
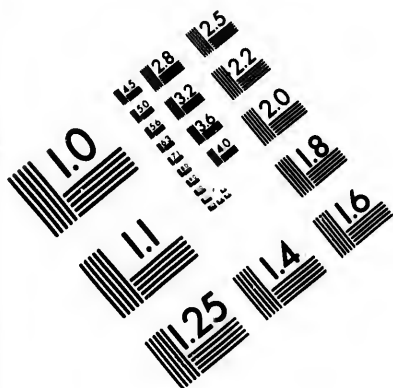
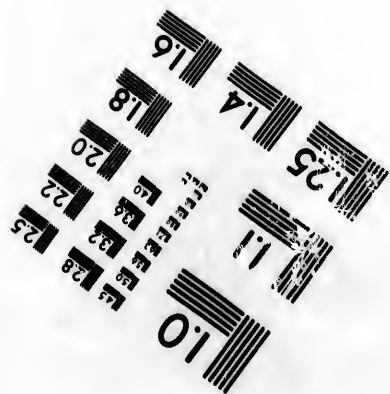
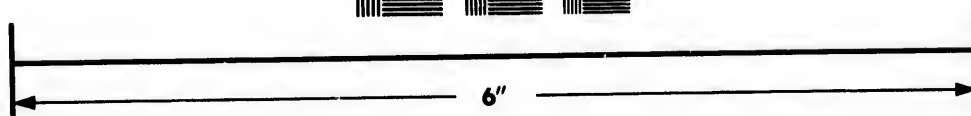
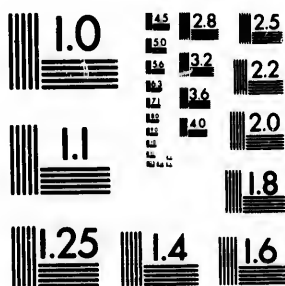


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tion, praise, and homage, which all his reasonable creatures owe him? In this respect, then, the advantage of early rising are manifest.

With regard to social duties, what more necessary than early rising? is it possible for a man who dozes away the morning in his downy bed, and spends one-third of the day in the enervating embraces of death-like sleep, to discharge the duties either of private or public life, like the man who gets up betimes, sedulous to mind his business, and careful not to lose the balmy influence of the most early rays of the sun? The latter has the pleasure to see the most essential part of his business done before the other begins; the consequence of which is, that he has leisure to pursue new advantages, new schemes of utility both to himself and others; whereas, the sluggard, by the too liberal indulgence of his beloved sleep, disables himself from performing even the indispensable duties of his station: instead of having time to look out for additional happiness, he is not in a condition to make the best of that which he already possesses. Besides that excess of sleep, instead of nourishing and refreshing, serves only to enervate the whole human frame; and actually disables those who indulge it from acting with that spirit, resolution and vigour they would otherwise do.

As to improving the mind in knowledge, the advantage of rising early is no less evident. In the morning all the faculties of our soul are awake, fresh, and vigorous. What over-night defied our most diligent study to find out, now voluntarily submits itself to our view; we see, we comprehend, what formerly was thought above the reach of human understanding. Now as early rising not only enables the mind to understand things more easily and better, but likewise affords time for settling about the study of them, it must be allowed to be highly conducive to the attainment of knowledge.

Proceedings in Parliament.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Abolition of the Slave Trade.

Few objects of greater importance have ever come before Parliament than the present, whether it be considered as an object of justice, of humanity, or of policy; and it accordingly obtained a full and ample discussion. This business originated in the last Parliament, where, after many witnesses were examined at great length, and a tedious investigation, the question was still left undecided. Nor was the discussion of this important object confined to the House of Commons; the people at large interested themselves in the question, and many publications appeared on both sides as usual, in some of which the parties engaged with a warmth of zeal that is in some measure incompatible with the full elucidation of truth. The minds of parties were thus inflamed to a degree, that every person of cool reason must disapprove of, and mutual accusations and personal recriminations took place, that tended only to inflame the mind, and make the real object of discussion be lost sight of. Some tincture of this sort was even to be observed in a few of the speeches in Parliament; but time having allowed these intemperate sallies to subside, the question received a fairer and cooler investigation on the present occasion.—Perhaps more time is still required, before men can be brought to view this subject with all the coolness and impartiality it requires.—In particular, more time than has yet been allowed seems to be necessary to enable individuals to make themselves fully masters of the important facts respecting this business that came out in the evidence before the committee.—When this shall be allowed, it is to be hoped that all parties will cordially agree in some amicable mode of settling this business, and not allow it to remain in some measure undecided, as at present, which by keeping in suspense the minds of persons interested, must be productive of very dangerous consequences.

The business was introduced by *Mr. Wilberforce*, who had taken the lead in it last Parliament.—First on Friday the 3d of December, when he announced that he should soon be able to name a day on which he meant to move for a renewal of the committee on the abolition of the slave trade, and next on Friday, December 10th, when he said, that after the notice he had given, he did not conceive that any thing more was necessary than to move, "That the House should on that day resolve into a committee of the whole House, to consider of the African slave-trade, as a previous step to reviving the same sort of

committee that had been appointed to examine evidence last year."

Colonel Tarleton did not oppose the motion, nor did he blame the hon. gentleman for his perseverance in a measure that he no doubt thought to be salutary, but which, if carried into effect, would, he said, be ruinous to a considerable branch of British commerce, and wondered that while his Majesty's ministers were laying fresh duties on the subject, they should, by the countenance they gave to this measure, be labouring to diminish the revenue.

Sir William Younge complained of the time that had been already spent in this discussion; and though he did not oppose the present motion, he intimated that if the business should be spun out to great length, that he should make a motion to get rid of it—*Agreed to.*

The business after several adjournments came on at length,

February 4. 1791.

Mr Wilberforce rose to make a motion for the House to resolve itself into a committee, to sit above stairs on the slave-trade, agreeable to the notice he had previously given, and concluded with moving "That the speaker leave the chair."

Mr Cawthorne complained of the long protraction of the examination before the former committee of enquiry, and said, to avoid a similar delay at present, he meant to oppose the motion, and take the sense of the House upon it; but this he would decline, if the Hon. gentleman would state the specific time the committee might reasonably be supposed to bring their enquiries to a conclusion.

Mr Wilberforce said, it was impossible for him to make any such compromise, as he could not prevent any gentleman in the committee from putting what questions they might incline. For his own part, he should make no delay that could be avoided.

Mr Cawthorne was not satisfied with this answer, and said the enquiry had already undergone sufficient discussion, and if carried farther, could only tend to injure the interests of the mercantile and manufacturing part of the community.

Mr Montague gave reasons to show it could not be expected that any gentleman could ascertain the duration of such a committee.

Mr W. Smith attributed the former delays to the opposers of the abolition, as fifty-seven days had been occupied on their part out of 87. The gentlemen employed for the Liverpool merchants had employed twenty-one days in cross examinations.

Colonel Tarleton complained of the injury already done to the numerous merchants, manufacturers, and planters, concerned in a trade that had been engaged in, and carried on for many years under the sanction of Parliament, in conse-

quence of the protraction that had already attended the inquiries of former committees.—He said there was abundance of room for the exertion of philanthropy in examining the state of the poor laws, and our infant settlement of South Wales.—He concluded with giving notice, that he would on that day fix weeks move the question of the abolition of the slave trade.

Mr Burke differed entirely from his hon. friend who had just sat down.—He thanked *Mr Wilberforce* for prudently declining to tie himself down to any specific term, and for his laudable perseverance and the committees that had sat hitherto, for their successful efforts; and he declared, that if the end of their labours should be the proof of the policy, as well as the humanity of the abolition of the slave trade, there was not, he was persuaded, a man in the House who would not rejoice and feel happy.

Mr Martin said, he should regret that any sort of persons should be sufferers; but the negro slaves were so numerous, and the hardships they underwent so great, that no consideration of prejudice in favour of individuals ought to stand in the way of relief to so numerous a set of sufferers.

Colonel Tarleton rose to explain.

The question was then put and carried.

Committee of the whole House.

The Speaker having left the chair, *Mr Elliot* took his place at the table.

Mr Wilberforce then moved, "That in order to facilitate the progress of the committee in the matters referred to them, the House will be pleased to appoint a committee for the purpose of taking the examination of such witnesses as shall be found necessary to be examined, touching the said matter."

"That the several petitions that were presented to the House in the last Parliament, relating to the slave trade, be referred to the said committee."

"That the minutes of the evidence taken in the last session, together with all reports, accounts, and papers, which were laid before the House, be referred." Ordered.

The committee to meet on the 18th.

A Card

Mr JOSEPH BRODIE returns thanks to *Dr Anderson*, for the obliging manner in which he has inserted the letter concerning the Bell-rock.—*Mr B.* is well convinced of the valuable qualities of *Larch-wood*, and should adopt the hint were any wood to be employed in constructing that beacon, but as it is intended to be entirely of hammered-iron, he cannot avail himself of it on the present occasion.

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THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, November 23, 1791.

*On the Pronunciation of the Latin and Greek Languages,
by Abbé Tournier, Teacher of the Italian Language in
Edinburgh, Author of the Anecdotes of Pope Ganganelli.*

To the Editor of the Bee:

SIR,

OF all the people of different nations whom I have heard either read or speak Latin, the least intelligible I have found to be the English. Notwithstanding the clipping mute E of the French, their perpetual stress on the last syllable of all their words, of which they cannot be cured, whatever other language they learn, and their nasals; notwithstanding the gutturals of the Germans, their often changing the *b* into *p*, the *d* into *t*, the *v* into *f*, yet, on the whole, they do not pronounce the Latin exactly according to the rules of the pronunciation of their own respective languages, as it happens with the English. If it be allowed that each of the five vowels in the English language has two distinct sounds, a long and a short, I doubt whether an Englishman, who pronounces them in the Latin as he does in the

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English, can be able to account always for their quantity, and not give sometimes the long sound to the short syllable, and the short to the long. Besides, they are totally unintelligible, not only to all the nations on the continent, among whom very often the Latin language might serve as a medium of communication, but even to their own neighbours the Scots, who, *ceteris paribus*, come nearest to the Roman pronunciation, except the Hungarians, the Poles, and, if I well recollect, the Russians. In every one, however, of the northern nations, too rough an aspiration is to be observed in pronouncing the H in the Latin words, which they might soften, if they would attend to what Quintillian says in regard to this letter; *Parcissime ea veteres usi etiam in vocalibus, cum OEDOS, IRCOSQUE dicebant; diu deinde, observatum ne consonantibus adspiraretur, ut in GRACCIS, et TRIUMPHIS: erupit brevi tempore nimius usus; ut CHORONAE, CHENTURIONES, PRAECHONES adhuc quibusdam inscriptionibus maneant. Qua de re Catulli nobile epigramma est. Inde durat ad nos usque VEHEMENTER, et COMPREHENDERE, et MIHI, &c.* We also learn from Cicero that the ancients never used the aspiration after consonants.

It may be observed that the aspiration, in words derived from the Greek, has often by the Latins been changed into V, as *Veneti, Vesta, Vespera, Vestis*, and several others; from which it may be deduced that the Romans were not very fond of admitting the aspiration, which, when they did, must have been very soft, since it is well known that the H never made the syllable long by *position*, as it is called in grammar. Nor is it unworthy of observation, that in the French language, which is the result of the Latin, grafted on the Celtic, and then of the Frank and Teutonic on that again, all the words, two or three excepted, derived from the Latin, and beginning with an H, have this H silent, or not aspirated; whereas, on the contrary, in words of Frank or Teutonic origin it is aspirated.—

Therefore it may be presumed that the Italians are not so much to be blamed, who shun all kind of aspiration in the Latin, as those who seem to fetch it sometimes from the bottom of their lungs.

I will not assert that the English in general think they have the right pronunciation of the Latin, only I can say that many of them are of that opinion. A gentleman in London some time ago thought to persuade me that the English were possessed of the true pronunciation of the Latin, by quoting to me some Italian words, derived from the Latin, in which the vowels were exchanged, as he said, according to the English manner; but I observed to him that the Italian language, beautiful as it is at present, owes its origin to a mixture of the Latin that was spoken by the common people of Italy, intermixed with the languages of the northern nations that invaded it, and therefore the *very few* examples of that kind which might be produced, could be of no weight.

The question will naturally now be, Whether I pretend that the present pronunciation the Italians make use of be the same as that of the ancients? I answer, I do not think it is *precisely* the same, nor do any of us think so. There is even a story current in Rome that a priest, exorcising a possessed person, commanded the devil to repeat a piece of an oration of Cicero in the same manner as he had done himself in the Forum; and that the devil having obeyed, no body could understand him. I know this is but a *ben trovato**, and only quote it to shew you that we are far from thinking that our pronunciation of the Latin is exactly the same as that of the Augustan age; but there is a very strong reason to think it must be the nearest to it of any other nation. Besides a very natural presumption in favour of the people, whose native language was formerly the Latin, a strong argument to support such a presumption may be derived from the Liturgy of the Roman church, which, as it is well known, has been

* A well-invented story.

without any interruption in the Latin language from the time that Christianity began in Rome until the present day. This must have carried with it an uninterrupted tradition of the pronunciation of our ancient language, not only among the clergy, but likewise among the people; so that notwithstanding a change which must be allowed to happen in a certain lapse of years in all languages, yet it could never be so worn out as to oblige us to go now and learn it from a Briton, a Gaul, or a Teutonic. You may add to this that the homilies, or sermons to the people were delivered in Latin, even when the Italian language had assumed consistency, that the laws not only in Rome, but over all Italy, were enacted in Latin, and the courts of justice issued their decisions in Latin; which custom in Rome is continued to this day, where all the pleadings in civil causes are printed in Latin, for the serious consideration of the judges; that the fathers of the occidental church, even in the last centuries, wrote in Latin; and that all works of science and literature were written in Italy in no other language but in Latin, even as far down as the time of Dante, who wrote in that language his treatise on the Italian; which being considered as the common language of the vulgar, got the denomination of *Lingua Vulgaris*, and only towards his time began to be in repute: and his is the first poem of note in the Italian language.

Nor can it be alledged that the ignorance which pervaded all Italy, in what is called the lower ages, until the revival of letters, was such as to make the Roman clergy lose entirely the pronunciation of their original language: nay, it is evident they were not so ignorant as the rest of the world, but had always one eye open, whilst other nations had them both shut, otherwise they would never have been able to attract such veneration and deference, as to enable the Popes to obtain the supreme spiritual monarchy over all the Christian commonwealth, from being the directors of a persecuted

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community in Rome, and afterwards assume to themselves a supreme power over all kingdoms; and even get above the Emperors, who were once their sovereigns.

This same argument, I think, militates as strongly in favour of the pronunciation of the Greek language by the present natives of Greece, and particularly the Athenians. The liturgy of the Greek church has likewise been from the first days of Christianity to the present times, without any interruption in the ancient language, which goes now by the name of literal Greek. Moreover, this same literal Greek cannot be considered as an entirely dead language, and totally changed into another of a quite different stamp and genius, as has happened to the Latin in respect to the Italian. Its purity indeed has been corrupted by the admission of new words, by not using any longer the dual number, and some other differences in the declensions and conjugations; but the language is still entirely Greek, and the delicate Athenian ears having by tradition preferred the softness of the charming accent of their ancestors, it is what is used by all the Greeks who pride themselves in speaking well. It is a great error to say that the Greeks are obliged to go into Germany and Italy to learn their ancient language; they go thither, indeed, to learn physic, and surgery, and the sciences, especially at the university of Padua: but as for their own language, they have no need to learn it any where but in their own country, and in their own schools, where its purity is deposited, and faithfully preserved. The Greeks, who are well bred, pique themselves on this particular, and do not easily pass over faults of language. Indeed it was a strong mark of the assuming tone of a Frenchman, when *Tournefort* pretended to teach *Maurocordato*, the first Dragoman of the *Gran Signor*, how to pronounce the Greek. Is it to be supposed that a nation, which, under the Ottoman yoke, has preserved its ancient customs, feasts, dances, games, superstitious func-

rals, &c. should have lost only the pronunciation of its language, and be obliged to go to Germany and Italy to recover it? I do not believe the Germans ever boast of it, and as for the Italians, we do not hesitate a moment to avow that we received our manner of pronouncing the Greek language, from those same Greeks, who after the Turks became masters of Constantinople, found shelter in Italy; which is entirely according to the rules of the pronunciation of the present natives of Greece;—so far are we from imagining ourselves their teachers.

Pope Urban VIII. being desirous to give, among other entertainments, a curious one to the ambassadors of some Indian kings, ordered several languages, unknown to them, to be spoken in their presence. The ambassadors being asked, through an interpreter, which they liked best, they answered, that which pleased them most was the Greek, and in the next place, the Italian. I doubt very much if the Indian ambassadors would have found so great a pleasure in hearing any of the British professors, or the *Messieurs* of *Port Royal* speaking Greek, as they had in hearing it from the mouth of a native of Greece, many of whom are always to be found in Rome, some of them men of learning.

I do not pretend to contradict, positively, an opinion which I have found prevalent among some persons in this country: that there are, in Calabria, some villages where the ancient pure Greek is spoken to perfection; and that the celebrated Grecist, and juriconsul *Gian Vincenzo Gravina*, the first patron and teacher of our famous dramatic poet *Pietro Metastasio*, sent his pupil thither to make him become perfect in the Greek language. I repeat, I do not positively contradict this information, as I have only negative arguments to oppose to it; which however are, I think, of a sufficient weight to make any person suspend giving credit to it too readily. It is rather singular that, among the seve-

ral literati with whom I have had the honour of being acquainted through the course of many years in Rome, and at Naples, many of them profound Grecists, I never heard any mention made of such soundly preserved living specimens of the antient Greek language. They should certainly have been brought upon the stage when disputes arose in Naples in regard to the pronunciation of this language at the appearance of the translation of the Greek Grammar of *Port Royal*, which was there printed, in Italian, and introduced into some schools; at which time Father *Velasli*, a Greek Jesuit, published, in Latin, his treatise on the pronunciation of his countrymen. As for the second part of this information, I can say that the memory of *Gravina*, who, although a Calabrese, had been for many years professor of law in our *archigymnasium*, was very fresh and vivid in Rome when I began to creep on the stage of literature, and the fame of *Metastasio* has always been there so unbounded, that his dramas are in the mouths of every body, especially of the fair sex, many of whom are always ready to carry on a most brilliant conversation, by the means of detached pieces of *Metastasio* so properly adapted, and with such feeling, vivacity, and *naïveté* that it is difficult to judge whether the poetical beauties of *Metastasio* receive new lustre from the melodious voice of the Roman nymphs, or the charming graces of the latter are set off by the affecting and animated expressions of the Roman poet. A great deal, therefore, I must have heard both of *Gravina* and *Metastasio*, although I never was acquainted with either; as the former had been dead, and the other was gone to Vienna long before my time; yet I never heard mentioned the supposed literary journey of *Metastasio* into Calabria, nor do I find any notice taken of it by his biographer; he only tells us, that *Metastasio* went to Naples to reassume there his interrupted study of the law, after he had spent all that *Gravina* had left to him, which must have happened

in the interval between 1718, when his master died, and 1729 when he was called to Vienna. Besides, the author of the elegant Latin satires, which go by the name of *Quintus Sæctanus*, who did not miss any opportunity of lashing *Gravina* most severely, under the name of *Philodemus*, and of *Bion*, would not have omitted ridiculing him on this point, as he has done in others relative to his Greek pedantry. Thus, I suspect there is some mistake in regard to the aforesaid opinion; however, I cannot venture to say from what it proceeds.

I have endeavoured to vindicate to the present Italians, and Greeks in general, and to Rome and Athens in particular, the right of employing, if not entirely the self-same pronunciation of their forefathers in their respective ancient languages, at least, that which the most approaches to it, to which, if all nations would agree, there might very soon be had, an universal language of communication, as well in speech as in writing, particularly the Latin, which has, for a long time, held the first place in Europe, to the effect for conveying the progress of human knowledge, and the several scientific discoveries. If you think it worth the attention of the public, you will oblige, dear Sir, your most sincere friend,

HENRY TOURNER.

On the Utility of Experiments in Agriculture, and Hints for prosecuting them in a proper Manner.

To the Editor of the Bee.

SIR,

A VARIETY of experiments in agriculture might be suggested, which it is within the compass of every ordinary farmer's abilities and opportunities of observation to make; and from which, if duly prosecuted,

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EXPERIMENTS IN AGRICULTURE.

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considerable benefit might be derived. What I allude to at present, are experiments for the discovery of new species of seeds.

It is allowed, that had it not been for the discovery of the species of early Carnwath oats for light soils, and of Magbiehill oats (*alias* red oats, *alias* barley oats *) for stronger soil, or improved land, no farmer could have farmed corn land to advantage in this upper part of the shire of Tweeddale, during the course of the backward seasons bypast.

In this highland part of the country, we are indebted to the late Mr Montgomery of Magbiehill, not only for the introduction of the Magbiehill oats, which he brought into this country about the beginning of the century, but also for the discovery of a Magbiehill pea, which is about a fortnight earlier than the Peebles grey pea, which last, is as much earlier than the Lothian black pea. It grows less to straw than those last mentioned, but is more corny than either. It is reported that Mr Montgomery found this pea among some early hasting garden pease in his garden; he observed some among them bearing red blossoms, these he kept apart and sowed repeatedly in his garden, saving always the whole produce, till they multiplied in sufficient quantity to be sown in the open fields, and to be sold in the market for seed. This species is now most commonly used in this neighbourhood.

Induced by this example, I have endeavoured to obtain, in the same manner, a species of pea still earlier than the Magbiehill. In the year 1786, I had a boll of Magbiehill pease growing on the glebe of Linton;

* It is to be regretted that names often tend to mislead. In some parts of Scotland a kind of oats are known by the name of *barley* oats, which are extremely different from the kind here alluded to in many respects. Probably there are also other kinds of oats of very different qualities from those here mentioned, that are known by the name of *red* oats, though I do not know them. It is therefore necessary to be extremely cautious how names are relied on in matters of this sort.—*Edit.*

an intelligent farm servant I had then with me, observed a few stalks up and down the field, which were in blossom before there was any appearance of blossoms on the generality of the field; these I marked by thrusting in a stick along side of the stalk, and tying a string slightly round the stick and the stalk; in consequence of an high wind, a number of the stalks were broken from the sticks, so that at harvest, I could only collect a small handful of pease; these I sowed in the garden, in 1787, and their produce also in the garden in 1788. In spring 1789, I sowed the produce, amounting to about a peck, on part of a rig in a field sown with Magbiehill pease. Here was a fair comparative trial. The new species were all in blossom about ten days before the Magbiehill.

The common practice of winning a pease crop at Linton, is to let them remain loose in handfulls, as laid down from the hook, and to turn them over repeatedly. By this practice they are sooner fit for the winter stack, if the weather proves fair, and if it proves rainy, by keeping them *a bove*, (if you will allow the expression) by repeated turnings, even in the midst of rain, they are prevented from clapping to the ground, and of consequence from rotting, or *codling* †, not to mention that, when a fair blink arrives, they are perfectly dried in an hour or two. My pease field was treated that season in this manner. Unluckily, however, for my experiment, a strong wind arose while the crop was in that situation, and my new species lying to the windward side of the field, a great part of them were driven in among the others. I saved only a very few, of whose nature I could be certain.

In spring 1790, being to leave the parish of Linton, I entrusted my produce to James McDougal farmer in Linton. He sowed them, as I had done, in a corner

† i. e. Opening the shells, and being lost by shedding.

of a field of Magbiehill pease, and they still retained their superiority in point of earliness. The pease crop of season 1790 was remarkably bad; and as the sandy soil of Linton is at best unfavourable to pease, the produce scarcely equalled the quantity of seed sown. This produce was again sown this season, by the same farmer, and, as formerly, along side of Magbiehill pease, and have still retained their superiority as an early grain. Mr M'Dougal has undertaken to preserve them, and to return me the produce next season, when I shall send you a small sample †.

The distinguishing properties of the Magbiehill seem all heightened in this new species, viz. earliness of growth and shortness of straw.

A new discovery may be curious of itself; it were, however, but an idle one, unless we can point out an useful purpose, in view, in the search after it, and a corresponding success in the issue.

Pease are sown hereabout as a meliorating and cleaning crop. In late places, such as these, even the earliest species of them must be sown before the end of

† May I beg leave to hint, that in experiments for quickly increasing a small quantity of a particular kind of grain, for seed, it would be proper to pursue a conduct somewhat different from that which a prudent farmer ought to adopt for his general crop. In general, a wise farmer will aim at obtaining the greatest *free produce* from a given extent of ground; but, in this case, he ought to aim at getting the greatest return in proportion to the seed sown. With that view, he ought to sow it upon the richest and best prepared ground he can command; and with regard to pease, these should always be sown in drills, and hoed. The distance between the rows should not be less than three feet, nor should the seed, in these rows, be planted at less than two inches from each other; and if the quantity of seed be very small, they ought to be staked. By this mode of procedure, I once obtained, from one single pea, (a grain, not a pod) at two sowings, a produce of nearly a *forpet* (better than two quarts English.) After the *quantity* is thus increased, comparative trials may be made with other kinds of grain. I once, by this kind of management, reaped, at one sowing, from a lipple of picked oats of a particular sort, full five firlots of produce; that is, equal to eighty returns. Pease are more easily increased in this way than culmiferous grain, as being less liable to ravage by birds. I will be much obliged to Mr F. for a few of these pease. Enrr.

March, at latest; otherwise, though the primary intention may be answered by a luxuriant crop of straw, there is no chance of obtaining a crop of corn. When they are sown thus early, on foul land, there is a great risque that the weeds, which, from their greater congeniality to the soil, thrive faster in cold weather than the artificial crop, shall get a-head of the pease; and it is a well known fact, that where pease do not obtain the entire superiority over the weeds, there is no crop which so much fosters the growth of weeds, from the shelter it affords them, particularly the growth of couch grass, or quicks. This inconvenience is, no doubt, remediable by late sowing, which always *ceteris paribus* ensures a luxuriant crop of straw; but, as I already observed, this diminishes the probability of a crop of corn, which, in the upper part of Tweedale, is at best, as to pease, a very precarious crop.

The intention then, of my experiment, was to obtain a species of pea, which, from its superior earliness, might be sown late, so as to give a certainty of a sufficiently luxuriant crop of straw, without, meanwhile, relinquishing the prospect of a good crop of corn: and the success seems, in a great measure, to answer the intention.

Till such time as the experiment shall be farther enlarged it would be improper to say any thing more decidedly. I am, however, of opinion, that by experiments such as these, a grey pea might be discovered which might afford to be sown so late as to allow the farmer who uses them as a cleaning and meliorating

§ Would not this be more effectually done by drilling and hand-hoeing? Few persons have an idea of the benefit that would be derived from this practice. I will venture, in general, to assert, that the expense of the hoeing would be returned *fourfold* in the produce of the pease crop alone, besides the advantage to be derived from the succeeding crops. It is merely from inattention that we neglect this practice.

EDIT.

crop, even to spring-fallow his land before sowing them, retaining still the probability of a good crop of corn*.

It may be alledged that all these properties required in pease are to be found in some of the species of the white garden pea: but not to mention that the meal of the white pea is unpalatable, having the harsh taste of the meal of beans, there is a still more weighty objection against them for the farmer's use in this part of the country. From any experience I have, I am led to conclude that the white peas are much more subject to codling, (i. e. the pod opening, and the pease falling out,) when exposed to rain, than the grey. In the season 1783, several farmers in my neighbourhood sowed different species of the white pea, the grey being very difficult to be procured; the crop was generally good, but this inconvenience was observed; and for this reason none that had tried them chused to risque a repetition of the experiment.

I am indeed decidedly of opinion that in this late climate the intention of a pease crop may be much more effectually answered, and in general even to much more immediate advantage, by a turnip or potatoe fallow, particularly by the former. Turnips, however, are deemed by the farmers to be a very inconvenient crop, where the farm consists of extensive sheep-lands, with a small proportion of croft, and that too uninclined, which is the general description of Tweeddale farms.

But even where there is every opportunity for turnips, and the soil answerable, pease might still be of great use as part of a rotation; particularly in cases where the actual croft land, or land properly situated, as to be converted into croft, is over proportioned to the dung raised on the farm, or otherwise comeatable; in that

* This ought in all cases to be done where the land is foul, if only a crop of straw should be reaped.— EDIT.

situation where the land is any way good in quality, instead of the Norfolk rotation of four, viz. 1st, turnip with the dung of the farm; 2d, barley laid down with grass seeds; 3d, hay; 4th, oats from the clover lea, which is esteemed the best for a turnip soil, I would substitute the following rotation of six, which would enable the farmer, with the same dung, to manage in tillage one half more of land than what he keeps in with the rotation of four; viz. 1st, turnip with all the dung of the farm, the crop to be consumed on the ground by sheep; 2d, barley, or rough bear, or what is better than either in this part of the country, Megbiehill oats, laid down with grass seeds; 3d, hay; 4th, oats; 5th, the early pea, with a spring fallow, and a sprinkling of lime; 6th, oats.

Experiments for the above purpose of obtaining new species of grain may be carried on, it is alledged, on a larger scale, in the following manner:—If you wish, for instance, for an early grain, reap what you reckon sufficient for the experiment of any crop, when half, or quarter, or any less proportion, is ripe; the earliest species of grains in what is thus reaped will have attained to their full maturity, whilst the latest kind, being ill filled and light, may be blown away by a strong wind in winnowing them at seed time. By repeating this process on the crop raised from your first produce, the latest grain may in time be totally extirpated, while the earliest alone is retained.

This experiment derives feasibility from a fact I have heard asserted, though I cannot vouch for its truth, that barley sown repeatedly in this country without change of seed, degenerates at last into rough bear. If this be a fact, the only conceivable way of accounting for it which occurs to me, is, upon the principles supposed in the foregoing experiment. So far as I can recollect, I never saw barley without a small mixture, less or more, of rough bear in it; the rough bear is an earlier grain than the barley; of consequence, in a climate

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like this, which in most seasons is barely sufficient to bring rough bear to maturity, when the crop of barley is cut the rough bear in it is ripe, and the barley less so: in winnowing, therefore, at seed time, all the rough bear produced from the quantity originally in the mixture is retained, and of course there is a greater proportion of it in the next seed sown, and always the more of it in every subsequent sowing*.

The force of this reasoning would indeed be totally destroyed if the reason I have heard assigned for what ever appeared to me to be the *barbarous* practice of Fifeshire; that of sowing blended bear, or a mixture of rough bear and barley, is a just one. It is alledged, in justification of the practice, that an intercommunion of properties takes place betwixt the grains thus mixed in the seed, like to what happens to metals incorporated by fusion; that the one communicates its earliness, and the other its lateness, to the crop; and that, on the whole, it ripens equally, and in the middle time of their respective separate seasons of ripening; it would, however, require a variety of well-conducted experiments, vouched after the most accurate and unprejudiced observation, to give authenticity to a fact of a nature so very extraordinary. If the assertion deserves credit, the same interchange of properties should happen in malting, and brewers would feel no inconvenience from their grain malting unequally.

I am informed, however, that the more enlightened Fife farmers lend no faith to this extravagant supposition, and have given up the practice.

I shall conclude my observations at present by suggesting a hint in regard to the trial of new species of seeds, and that is, that care should be taken to institute

* The converse of this experiment might be of use in an early climate, where late grain is wanted: probably a mixture of rough bear and barley would in time, if repeatedly sown without change of seed, turn out to be all barley; by the time the barley was full ripe, the rough bear would be drop-ripe, and would be shaken.

a fair comparative trial, in order to be able to judge of superiority, either in regard to difference of ripening, or prolific nature. If, for instance, you wish to make trial of a new species of potatoe, you can form no just practical conclusion from a few plants, *particularly attended to in a garden*; or even when treated like your ordinary crop, if planted at an *outside* of your field: let them be planted in the middle of your field, where they will not only receive the ordinary culture, but will also labour under the ordinary disadvantages of want of air, and of sunshine.

Monse of Newlands,
20th Oct. 1791.

I am, Sir, your's,
CHARLES FINDLATER.

Excerpts from the History of Abalcacim Tarif Abentariques.

[Continued from page 61.]

THE Arabic MSS. from whence the translation was made, is one of those which escaped the blind zeal of *Ximenes Cibneros*, at the conquest of Granada; by Ferdinand the Catholic; and it gives such an advantageous view of the mental acquirements, liberal ideas, and polished manners of the people whose history it relates, as cannot fail to excite a sensible regret that so many of the Moorish writings should have perished on that unfortunate occasion, and ought to awaken a spirit of enquiry, with a view to discover the nature of those numerous Arabic manuscripts that till this moment lie buried in the monasteries and public archives of Spain, which probably contain many literary treasures of inestimable value.

The passages I shall select at present are from a geographical description of the kingdom of Spain, which he has introduced in the second book of his history.

Description of Spain, &c.

[Written about the Year 780.]

The author divides this description into seven chapters. In the first he gives a brief account of the first settlement of Spain, according to popular tradition.—He narrates that *Japhet*, the son of *Noah*, had a son called *Sem Tofail*, a man of great enterprise, who, in search of new settlements, embarked on the sea, and sailing to the westward, discovered Spain, of which he took possession, and, in imitation of his grandfather *Noah*, he divided the whole country among his three sons, called *Tarrabo*, *Sem Tofail*, and *Iber*. To *Tarrabo* he assigned the north-eastern division, which, from his name, was called the kingdom of *Tarrabon*, and has since been called Arragon. The western division he assigned to *Sem Tofail*, the capital of whose kingdom was called *Sem Tofail*, afterwards *Setubal*, extending to the Western Ocean. The third division, bordering on the Mediterranean sea he gave to *Iber*, under the name of *Iberia*; and the father chusing for himself a place, built a great city, which he named *Morar*, afterwards called *Merida*; of the ancient state of which he gives a most magnificent description. All these particulars, the historian tells us, he saw inscribed upon a large stone, which had been placed above the principal gate of the city, from which he transcribed it. But these, as being too romantic for modern belief, I omit.

The second chapter treats of the different nations who had inhabited Spain before the conquest of it by the Moors. He briefly mentions that it was successively visited by the Armenians, [Tyrians,] Greeks, Carthaginians, Romans, Goths, and Jews, and finally by the Moors. He states, that after the death of *Jacob Almanzor*, Spain was divided by the Moors among themselves, into eight kingdoms, which, together with that of the Christian kingdom of the Asturias, under *Don Pelayo*, made nine in all; in this manner, viz. The

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kingdom of *Tarragon* was divided into five divisions, 1st, Part of the kingdom of *Don Pelayo*. 2, The kingdom of *Toledo*, otherwise called *Cassile*, whose king at this time was *Abderahimin*. 3d, The kingdom of *Aragon*, whose king was *Abbenbut*. 4th, The kingdom of *Murcia*, whose king was *Abraham el Azcandari*; and 5th, The kingdom of *Valentia*, whose king was *Alii Hazen*.

The province of *Iberia* was divided into, 1st, The kingdom of *Cordova*, otherwise *Vandaluzia*, whose king was *Alii Abdilvar*. 2d, The kingdom of *Baeca*, whose king was *Abercotba*. 3d, The kingdom of *Granada*, whose king was *Bediz Zunuci*; and part of the kingdom of *Hispala*, whose king was *Abenbimc*.

The division that belonged to *Sem Tofail* was divided between the kingdom of *Don Pelayo* and that of *Hispalis*.

The whole circuit of the kingdom of Spain, he says, measures 2000 miles, including the kingdom of *Don Pelayo* towards the north; "which, though small, is rough and difficult to conquer, and which I myself think, says he, *will probably be the cause of the destruction of all the other kingdoms of Spain, because of the little union that prevails among them.*"—A remarkable prediction, which the event has fully verified.

Our author's description of the Christian inhabitants of Spain, is in these words: "The Goths, who possess this kingdom, are of the profession of Christians, and worship the blessed Jesus, son of the Virgin Mary, as their God and Creator, and adore his image, crucified upon a cross. They celebrate their religious festivals and fasts with many observances and particular ceremonies. They have their clergy and religious persons, who are cloathed with ample robes of *fine woollen*. They are not permitted to marry; and although king Rodrigo gave them, (as well as the people in general,) permission to keep one, two, or three wives, and those who

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chose it, to keep concubines, contrary to their law, and to the general opinion of the people ; but those who are evil disposed have made so much use of this liberty, that it may be affirmed for truth, that there are at present in this kingdom a greater number of bastards than legitimate children ; from which I think it certain, has arisen all those disorders and contentions which occasioned the ruin of the kingdom. Yet some of the priests, and others of the people, never would avail themselves of that mandate of Rodrigo, esteeming it better to observe the law of decency, prescribed by their forefathers, than the unseemly edict of their king."

After mentioning many other particulars of less consequence, he says, " They rear in Spain a great many fine, beautiful, light horses, especially in the province of *Iber*, called *Vandaluzia*, which are produced there to greater advantage than in any other part of the kingdom." He adds, that in the western part of that province, adjoining to the main ocean, the inhabitants say that the mares conceive without copulating with the males, and that these horses are lighter and more active than the others. " But this opinion," he continues, " appears to me to be false, and to be conceived by men who know little of natural philosophy ; for no mare, nor other animal living, can engender without copulation with the male of its own species. The truth seems to be, that in this province, the west wind, on account of the mild humidity of the air it brings with it, disposes the female to receive the male more kindly."

The third chapter is appropriated to the description of the principal mountains in Spain. The Pyrenees, he says, which divide that kingdom from France, are the highest, and the largest mountains in that country. They extend, in length, more than four hundred miles, and thirty in breadth, in some places more. He de-

scribes the *Sierra Morena**, which has been rendered so familiar to every reader by Carvantes, as, in general, a fine ridge of mountains, abounding in fruit trees, forest timber, and fine pasture for their numerous flocks. He represents the inhabitants as being sometimes obliged to burn down the woods to make way for their flocks; and mentions, that on one occasion of that sort, a strong west wind having prevailed, the fire spread to a vast extent, and during the conflagration, the heat had been so great as to melt the metals, so that, afterwards, bars of silver and lead had been found on the surface of the ground; but, he says, "if ever there were mines in this Sierra, the natives must have concealed them, as none had been discovered in that district, by the Moors." Among other trees, he remarks, that in this Sierra, there are great quantities of oranges, and other fruits.

He describes, with still more delight, another *Sierra*, or ridge of mountains, which, as a specimen of his manner of writing, shall be given in a literal translation of his own words.

"They call this Sierra, in the Spanish language, *las montañas de sol y ayre*, the mountains of the sun and air, which separate the kingdoms of *Granada* and *Baeca* from the kingdoms of *Murcia* and *Valentia*. Those, as deserving particular notice, on account of their fertility, and the abundance of all things necessary for human life, I shall particularly describe, as having seen them myself when I traversed them at the time that *Trafalgar* Captain, general of the king *Almanzor*,

* Though I here translate the word *Sierra* by the English word *mountains*, it is not perfectly just. *Sierra* means, in general, a tract of elevated land, lying in such a state, as not to admit of being generally cultivated by the plough. These inequalities of surface may be such as not to convey the idea of mountains to an English reader; but I know no word exactly synonymous.

conquered them from the dominion of *Don Rodrigo*; for although I have also seen the other Sierras, above mentioned, I have not examined them with such accuracy as this; because it appeared to me most beautiful, and worthy to be noted among all the Sierra's in the world.

"The top of these mountains is very high; for it reaches to the middle region of the clouds, and is always covered with snow, both in summer and in winter, and in such abundance, that it excites admiration. In the higher part of this Sierra is a fountain, or lake, which the inhabitants call, in their own language, *el manantial cristalino*, the chrystalline fountain, and with reason; for this is a lake about a bow-shot in breadth, of unfathomable depth, and containing an immense store of water, clear as chrystal. From it issues a great river "*[Rio Caudalejo* †,] called *San Gil*, which I shall have occasion elsewhere to describe. This Sierra extends, in length, from east to west, forty-four miles, and in breadth, from north to south, forty-two, not including the slopes towards the bottom of the hills all round in this measurement; and, although it be somewhat rocky, towards all quarters, it is exceedingly fertile; is well inhabited, and contains, in it, many populous places. There arises, in these mountains, twenty-six *rios caudalesos*, large rivers: there flows from the heights, in every place, as if in vertical lines, innumerable rills of pure and sweet water, which occasion great verdure, fertility, and abundance in all the lands within the circuit of this district.

† There is no phrase, in any language I know, exactly equivalent to the Spanish *rio caudalejo*. *Caudal*, in general, signifies wealth; *rio caudalejo*, therefore, suggests the idea of a wealthy, or rich river, a source of abundance and wealth. In general, the phrase is adopted to denote a principal, or large river, in contradistinction to more inconsiderable streams.

It abounds in perennial springs, which are met with at every step, and cannot be numbered. It contains herbs and medicines of great virtue for the health of man. There are many wild fruit trees, which yield fruit without cultivation. There are bred, in it, great plenty of venison, mountain goats, wild boars, bears and wolves, coney, hares, partridges, and other quadrupeds, and birds. *Blessed for ever, amen, be the sovereign Lord of all, who hath conferred upon his creatures such a variety of delights, to regale their senses, and supply their wants.*"

He also mentions another Seirra, called *Sierra de los Pinos*, because it abounded in pine trees (called, since, *Sierra de Segera*;) and before he closes the chapter, he mentions the mountains of the kingdom of *Don Pelayo*, although, says he, "I have not seen them, nor traversed them myself; I give the relation from accounts communicated to me from christians who were natives of that country."

"These mountains lie in the north part of the kingdom of Spain. They say that they are high, rocky, and sterile in bread; but the natives have abundance of flesh and fish, and other necessaries, and plenty of fine water. These mountains are cold, and enjoy an unfavourable climate;—but on this subject I shall not enlarge, because it is not my disposition to tell stories, nor things uncertain, but only truths, and things that are well known."

Chapter 4th treats of the *rins caudalosos* of this kingdom, and the fertility these produce.

Here he gives a very concise account of the rivers *Iber*, *Duero*, *Tajo*, *Guitalquiver*, now *Guadalquiver*, anciently *Betis*. *San gil*, called, in Arabic, *Saanil*, that is to say, the second Nile, or the imitator of the river Nile; and this name they bestow upon it not without reason, because its current is so high, rising in the summit of the mountains of the sun and air (as has been already noted.) It is so much above the level

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ON THE HISTORY OF SPAIN.

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of the lands, in general, of this province, that the inhabitants are enabled to draw off, from it, a great number of large canals, by means of which, they water nearly forty miles of land. It falls into the Guadalquiver before it reaches the kingdom of Hispalis. — From this river, and those which fall into it, they draw off these canals, by which the province derives much benefit; these occasioning, through the whole of it, great verdure, fertility, and abundance, resembling the Nile, which, by its ordinary overflowing, causes so much fertility over all Egypt ¶.

These rivers he traces from their source to the sea, with much brevity and distinctness; and all of them, he says, abound in fish, which are wholesome and palatable, except the *Guit-daina*, now *Guadiana*, which passing through *La Mancha*, [the dry field,] runs in such a deep bed as not to admit of being used for watering the ground. Its water, he says, is bitter, unsavory, and unwholesome; nor are the fish it produces good to eat. He also takes notice of its sinking under ground, and rising again at a considerable distance; nor does he omit the hot baths, or their uses in curing diseases. He concludes this chapter with observing, that there are not any where upon this coast *lagunes* of putrid water, which engender diseases among the people, nor are there any arms of the sea which run up far within land, except one, which is at the mouth of the river Guadalquiver, where the main ocean enters into it, and flows up as far as the city *Hespala*, [*Seville*,] about fifty miles; to the great benefit of the inhabitants, not only by affording them a ready communication with the sea.

¶ This is a proof of the great progress in civilization, and in agriculture, that had prevailed in Spain before the conquest of it by the Moors; for all these works had been made by the Spaniards before the Moors entered this kingdom. We shall soon see farther proof of their knowledge in agriculture and useful arts.

for traffic, but also by furnishing the inhabitants with abundance of fish for food."

From these excerpts the reader will perceive that our historian has been an attentive observer of every thing that fell within his notice; and, I believe, there is no where to be found a more accurate, concise, and distinct account of the physical conformation of the kingdom of Spain, than he has given of it.

As the remaining chapters of this description are short, and give a very satisfactory and curious account of the temperature of the climate, and its effects on men and other animals, its fertility, and the vegetables and animals which were then cultivated and reared in it, and of course gives an idea of the state of industry and arts which then prevailed there, that is no where else to be found, I shall suppose the reader will be much better pleased to see them at full length than in an abridgement, on which account they shall be presented entire, in some early number of this work.

(To be continued.)

For the Bee.

LOOKING, the other day, over a common-place book, which I kept a good many years since, among other extracts, I observed an account of the following curious intermarriages, which is at your service, if you think it worth inserting.

A PLEBEIAN.

Faversham in Kent, Feb. 10th, 1659.

Old Harwood had two daughters by his first wife, the eldest of whom was married to John Coshick the son, and the youngest to John Coshick the father. This Coshick, the father, had a daughter by his first wife, whom old Harwood married, and by her had a son; therefore Coshick, the father's second wife, could say as follows:

My father is my son, and I my mother's mother.

My sister is my daughter, I'm grandmother to my brother.

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10th, 1659.
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Thoughts on November.

For the Bee.

WINTER dull NOVEMBER, Winter's harbinger,
Dark veil'd in show'ry clouds, oppressing life,
And scatt'ring on his blast the with'ring leaves
That late adorn'd the groves; while Phoebus far
To southern climes retires; withdraws his beams,
Loath to behold the ruins of his race;
What consolation can the Muse afford
To her frail brethren of the human kind,
Who in the falling foliage of the year,
See lively pictur'd their impending fate,
When death, more certain than th' autumnal form,
Shall in an unknown moment shake them off
(Tho' griev'd to part) from the green tree of life;
From all its vanities, its pomp and pride,
And lay their humbled honours in the dust.
In this bleak season of the waning year,
When age, disease, and misery retire
To poverty's chill hut, fain would she warm
The frigid bosoms of the rich and great,
"Whom pleasure, pomp, and affluence surround,"
And to their blessings, add one blessing more,
The bliss that never cloy,--of doing good,
To heal calamities they never felt,
To succour the distress they never knew;
To cheer the gloom of winter, banish want
And frost from the low dwelling of the poor;
To feed the hungry, clothe the thiv'ring wretch,
Sustain the widow with her orphan train;
To raise the fall'n, call modest me it forth
From dark obscurity; to snatch the rod
Of cruelty from Oppression's iron hand:
In fine,--to emulate the bounteous pow'r
From whom their wealth, rank, and distinction flow;
While lisping infancy, and hoary years
Join concert in their praise. Applauding heav'n
Marks and records the deeds. Perfumes ascend
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More grateful than the smoke of hecatombs,
 With all the incense of Arabian groves;
 While harps-angelic celebrate their worth,
 And with th' Almighty's praises mingle theirs.

Yield, pleasure, gold, and greatness; yield the palm
 Of true enjoyment, to the generous soul,
 Where, wide diffus'd, Benevolence presides;
 Whose self-approving gratulations flow,
 Superior far to ev'ry mortal bliss,
 In one pure placid stream of constant joy.

The Contrast. Written in India.

Pook is his triumph and disgrac'd his name,
 Who draws his sword for gold or barb'rous fame;
 For him, though wealth be blown on ev'ry wind,
 Tho' fame announce him fiercest of mankind,
 Tho' twice ten nations crouch beneath his blade,
 Virtue disowns him and his glories fade:
 For him no pray'rs are pour'd, no pæans sung,
 No blessings chanted from a nation's tongue;
 Blood marks the path to his untimely bier;
 The curse of widows, and the orphan's tear
 Cry to high heaven for vengeance on his head;
 Alive detested, and accurst when dead.
 Indignant of his deeds, the Muse who sings
 Undaunted, Truth! and scorns to flatter kings,
 Shall show the monster in his hideous form,
 And mark a Tippoo as the mark of scorn.

Not so the patriot chief who dares withstand
 The faithless rival of his native land;
 Who makes her wealth, his noblest, only end,
 Rules but to serve her, fights but to defend;
 Her voice in council, and in fight her sword,
 Lov'd as her father, as her god ador'd;
 Who firmly virtuous, generously brave,
 Unmov'd by passion, conquers but to save.
 On worth like his the Muse delights to wait,
 Reverses alike, in triumph or defeat;

Crowns with true glory, and with deathless fame,
Enrolls with patriot heroes, *Meadow's* honour'd name.
BRITANNICUS.

Song.

Do you sigh for the frowns of the fair,
Or mourn for the loss of your gain?
I am the friend that's sincere,
And I can relieve you from pain:
You shall dream that your mistress is kind,
You shall dream you're as great as a king,
Your sorrows I'll give to the wind,
Then join jolly Bacchus and sing.
'Tis I make the artful sincere,
The miser to part with his gold,
The coward forget all his fear,
And his heart feel courageous and bold:
When envy makes neighbours unkind,
The full flowing bowl that I bring,
It soon makes them all of a mind,
To join jolly Bacchus and sing.

ARISTIPPUS.

Impromptu.

The frequent sighs of ev'ry hour
Tell where unceasing cares reside;
And vain is every mortal power
To stop despair's corrosive tide.
Sadly serene the ling'ring views
The placid stroke of death come on,
Slowly but sure the scythe pursues,
The thread is cut—the toil is done.

CORNELIA MIRANDA.

On the State of Agriculture in France.

As a parallel to the account given in our last of the state of agricultural exertions in Britain,---I beg leave to give the following article, which will give a view of its actual state in France, in a case somewhat analogous to the former.

Mr Lormoy, a public spirited improver, has lately had a great dispute with Mr Daubenton, the celebrated academician, about the proper mode of breeding and managing sheep. Among other improvements, this gentleman recommends the culture of turnips, and talks of it nearly in the same way we might have expected in England about an hundred years ago. The editor of a periodical work on agriculture, enforcing the remarks of Mr Lormoy, by some additional observations of his own, mentions, seemingly as a wonder that he expects will scarcely be believed, that some of the largest turnip roots may be even three or four inches diameter. He also represents the cream of cows fed on turnips in December, as equally good with that of cows fed on grass in May, and it has this additional excellence he says, "that it has no taste of the fodder." Hence he recommends turnip and milk as peculiarly excellent for children, and people of a consumptive habit; and proposes gravely a set of queries, respecting its superior excellence, to two eminent physicians, who as gravely proceed to decide on this subject in the following manner; which I here produce as a literary curiosity, of a kind that few of my enlightened readers would expect to meet with in the end of the eighteenth century; yet it is sufficiently authenticated.

Omitting the introduction, they thus proceed: "Turnip, in general, is one of those vegetative substances which contain a copious and refined mucilage; its mild and luscious flavour, and the place this plant holds among the cruciferous, proves that it contains an alkaline principle, fit to help digestion, and even to divide the blood, as well as the humours. It is this principle which makes all the cruciferous plants, and chiefly tur-

"nipp," a delicious food for cattle; they seek it with a "conspicuous eagerness, and when found, eat it with a kind of gluttony.

"The mucilage," they proceed, "actuated by that principle, is not clogged with earthy parts and filaments, like other fodder: its dissolubility demonstrates that it is less compact than it is in potatoes and many other roots; these qualities, natural to French turnips, (these are long like a carrot,) have still a greater energy in English ones. They are distinguished from the former by a shorter and more circular form, a more considerable pulpy substance, more delicious flavour, and greater dissolubility. All turnips, but chiefly the English, are then the most nourishing food, the easiest to digest, and the most wholesome for cattle as well as for men: They, above all, agree with cattle and sheep, *because their flesh has more analogy with the turnip's pulp*, therefore it may be asserted, that they are for them as *wholesome*, as they are easily procured at all times.

They proceed: "But to come to the qualities which the *flesh or milk* of cattle will acquire, from their being for a length of time fed on turnips: Their flesh will be of a better taste, more juicy, very wholesome, and more nourishing. It would, perhaps, be better to eat less of it, though the difference be not material enough to deserve this consideration; their milk will be more plentiful, *and of a better taste*, cream will be lighter, and more *delicious*; its cheesy substance will be increased in proportion to its serous matter, as much on account of the nature of turnips, as because the cattle feeding upon them will need less drink."

In adverting to this mode of ratiocination, one would almost think that they had gone back to the age of Quincy and the mechanical chemists. But we will not tire our readers with longer extracts; we shall only observe, that they proceed to show that turnip-milk, unless it were perhaps for its too great richness, is better for infants than any other cow milk, and greatly better than any other milk for people of a weakly and delicate constitution, or those who are affected with consumptive complaints.

This learned and elegant effusion is signed DESCHEMET, professor in physic at Paris, VERDIER, privy physician to His Majesty the late king of Poland.

The moral that may be drawn from this performance is, that when men are groping in the dark, they ought to proceed with caution; and when they are ignorant of facts, they may save themselves the trouble of searching for reasons to account for them.

I acknowledge my obligations to Mr Arthur Young for the translation here used, the extracts being transcribed from his annals of agriculture.

For the Bee.

GLEANINGS OF BIOGRAPHY.

Oliver Cromwell.

The crafty protector beginning to grow old and decline in health, was seized on the 14th of April 1657 with so severe an illness, that he was unable to do business, and from day to day the committees of Parliament were acquainted by Whitlock, of his indisposition.

With a view to obviate the apprehensions of the people, and even to inspire them with the idea of a complete renovation of his bodily strength, and youthful vigour, he caused the following article to be inserted in the news-books, or newspapers, of England, Scotland, and Ireland. The following is transcribed from the news-book, entitled the Public Intelligencer, of April 27. 1657. London, printed by Thomas Newcomb, dwelling over against Bainard's Castle in Thames' Street.

Westminster, Monday, 20th April 1657.

The Lord Whitlock acquainted the House, that the committee on Friday last, were at Whitehall to attend his

Nov. 25.

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CROMWELL.

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Highness, who being then *not in a condition of health*, de-
sired the meeting might be put off till this morning, ten
of the clock, &c. &c.

Here followeth a confirmation of a most remarkable
prodigy of nature, concerning the return of an extreme
old man to a vigorous, youthful constitution: as followeth,
being extracted out of a letter:

From Newcastle, 13th April.

As touching that strange accident concerning the old
man, so far as is truth I shall here relate.

They call his name Mr John Macklain, a Scottish man,
parson of Lesbury in Northumberland, about twenty or
twenty-five miles from this town, aged 116 years, who
could not read without spectacles for these forty years last
past, but hath his youth so renewed, that now he can read
the smallest print without spectacles.

He had also lost most of his teeth, but now he hath new
teeth come again. Moreover, he had lost his hair, and
now again his hair is coming again like a child's hair:
And whereas he was feeble and weak heretofore, he now
begins to renew his strength likewise, and studieth much,
and preacheth twice every Lord's day. This is all, and
it is truth.

Remark.—This Charlatanerie of management, with
respect to the public prints, has perhaps never been ex-
ceeded since, except in the short period intervening from
Christmas 1783 to the present time.

ALBANICUS.

*Account of a singular shrub, described by Mr Thunberg,
in his travels, just published at Stockholm in the Swedish
language.*

Mr Thunberg, the celebrated Swedish naturalist, was
informed when at the Cape of Good Hope, that there
grew, in one of the distant cantons of that country, a cer-
tain shrub which produced several articles of wearing ap-

parel naturally, ready made, and fit for use, such as gloves, very soft and fine, furr caps, stockings of fine wool, &c. This account being confirmed by the unanimous concurrence of all the inhabitants of that district determined our philosopher to go in quest of the plant; not with the expectation of finding what the inhabitants asserted, but from a desire to account for the phenomena which had given rise to this fable. After a considerable search he at length obtained some branches of this marvellous shrub. Its leaves were covered with a fine soft, thick, white down, which gave them a good deal the appearance of some kinds of velvet. The leaves were of different forms, oblong, oval, or rounded, according to their age, and the greater or less maturity they had attained. The women split them, separating the two surfaces from each other with great address, without splitting them at the edges; and turning them carefully, inside out, they thus formed different kinds of gloves, bonnets, &c. of a rude fashion, according to the size and form of the leaf, which answered the purpose of defending the natives from the cold very effectually. Thus was explained this astonishing wonder, as all others of a similar nature may be explained, by a little attention to facts.

Mr Thunberg found that this singular plant belonged to the genus *Bupleurum*; and as its species was unknown in Europe, he gave it the name of *B. Giganteum*.

It is to be regretted that the author takes no notice whether this kind of vegetable furr preserves its pliability for any length of time; or if it be strong and durable; or tender and brittle when dried, as is the case with most kind of leaves. He does not say that any seeds of it have been brought to Europe.

It seems by no means impossible, that were such a plant to be cultivated in this country, a mode might be discovered of separating this down from the parenchymous part of the leaf, without deranging the texture of its furr, and planting it upon some flexible basis, that might thus be converted to some use as a manufacture.

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A View of the Castle of Kildrummie in Aberdeenshire.

THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, November 30, 1791.

ACCOUNT OF CASTLE OF KILDRUMMIE,

[With a PLATE.]

THIS was a fortress of the highest antiquity, and, from the name, appears to have been also a place of religious worship*.

It had been erected to defend, or over-awe, the country of the Garioch in Aberdeenshire, and was immemorially in the Crown.

It was held by Prince David, brother of Malcolm IV. and William the Lyon; Kings of Scots. Prince David's second daughter, Isabella, brought it in dower to her husband Robert Brus, Lord of Annandale, and his great grandson King Robert I. gave it to his sister Christian, the wife of Gratney Earl of Marr, from whom sprung the royal house of Stuart; and it came afterward, by a preferable propinquity, to the house of Er-

* Kil-drummie, Kirk-ridge.

skine, though the Stuarts long detained it unjustly, on the pretence of a better right, founded on the error that gave the crown to Bruce before Baliol.

When Edward I. of England, anno 1306, over-ran Scotland, before Robert Bruce was firmly seated on his throne, that adventurous prince was forced to leave Badenoch, and hide himself for a time in the Western isles.—On that occasion he sent his wife and daughter, with their attendants, to Kildrummie, as to a place of safety; but on hearing that a powerful army was approaching to besiege that place they left it, and took refuge in the sanctuary of St Duthac, at Tain in Rosshire, where they were betrayed by the Earl of Ross, who violated that sanctuary, and delivered them up to Edward of England, who kept them in close confinement many years. Among these prisoners was the intrepid Countess of Buchan, who had placed the crown upon Robert's head at Scoone, which displeased the King of England so much that he ordered her to be confined in a cage, under the strictest guard, in the castle of Berwick.

Soon after the queen and her unfortunate attendants left Kildrummie that castle was closely besieged by an English army, under the command of the Earls of Lancaster and Hereford, which was defended with great valour by Nigel, the young brother of King Robert.—But the magazine having been treacherously burnt by one named Osburn, the garrison were forced, from want of provisions, to surrender at discretion: and young Nigel, whose comeliness of person is mentioned by historians, was tried and condemned to be hanged, and afterwards beheaded: the punishment, in those days, of those who were accounted guilty of treason.

“It was, (says the learned and worthy writer of Lady Sutherland's Memorial on her case of Peerage,) the great aim of the sagacious, but too precipitate policy of James I. King of Scots, to unite the ancient

Earldoms to the Crown, and thus to sap the foundations of a formidable and hated aristocracy. What progress he made, and how he perished in the attempt, is known from history*."

James used to joke with the Queen on this subject, and say, "My sweetheart, I hope the time will come when I may see you go to bed with all the nobility of Scotland!"

A brave project for a patriot prince, and worth of a more fortunate issue! *A rich and powerful nobility must destroy the liberties of any people among whom they are suffered to domineer.*

The Castle of Kildrummie, with the Earldom of Marr, was for some time possessed by Isabella Douglas, in right of her mother Margaret of Marr, who was the wife of the first Earl of Douglas.

This lady was forcibly married by Alexander Stuart, natural son of the earl of Buchan, who casting his eye on so desirable an heiress, stormed the castle of Kildrummie in the year 1404, and whether altogether by violence or not, obtained her in lawful wedlock; and on the 12th of August, she granted to him her earldom of Marr, and lordship of Garioch.

The form of procedure in this transaction, as described by the memorialist for Sutherland, is strongly characteristic of the times. On the 19th of September Alexander presented himself at the Castle of Kildrummie, and surrendered to the Countess not only the castle but all its furniture, and the title-deeds therein kept; in testimony of this, he delivered the keys into her hands, "freely, and with good heart, for her to dispose of them as she pleased. The Countess, holding the keys in her hands, of mature advice, chose the said Alexander for her husband; and, in

* Additional Case of Lady Sutherland by her Guardians, delivered at the Bar of the House of Lords, cap. v. page 48.

free marriage, gave to him the castle, with its pertinents; the earldom of Marr, &c. to the heirs of the marriage, which failing, to the said lady and her lawful heirs." This countess died, without issue, before her husband, and thereupon the right of succession devolved to Robert Lord Erskine, as the heir general of Gratney, the eleventh Earl of Marr from Murdoch, who had that domain and office confirmed to him by Malcolm Canmore.

Before the Earls of Marr acquired the castle of Kildrummie they generally resided in the castle of Marr, now Castleton of Marr, in Aberdeenshire.

This, together with the other titles and territories of the family, were forfeited in the person of John Erskine, Earl of Marr, in consequence of his rebellion 1715; the chief house of Erskine burying itself [as it were] under the ruins of that house which it had raised to the throne, cherished through all its successions, educated its princes, and promoted its glory both in the cabinet and in the field.

The cleverest man of the greatest people in the world has made a moral remark on the catastrophe of the Stuarts, which deserves to be contemplated.

"Que les hommes privez qui se croient malheureux jettent les yeux sur ces princes et sur leur aucceres!"

This stately castle was inhabited about forty years ago. Since the year 1715 it has been allowed to fall to ruin; and, for several years past, it has been pulled down by the peasants in the neighbourhood, for the sake of the lime they obtain from the rubbish, which they make use of as a manure. From this cause, this beautiful castle, which might have stood for many ages a striking monument of the taste of our forefathers, and their fine of architecture, will soon be entirely destroyed. The view of it, that is here given, was taken several years ago. At present, I have been assured by a gentleman of veracity, who lives very near

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THE CHIMERA.

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the spo., that very little of it remains; and in half a century perhaps tradition alone will mark the place whereon it stood.

The Chimera, or, a Tale of a Looking-Glass.

Monstrum horrendum, informe, ingens.

"A monster stupendous, deformed, and immense."

THE gentle reader need not entertain the least doubt of the *authenticity* of the following wonderful story; for, upon perusal, he will find nothing contained therein but what daily experience proves to be but too true.

There was a certain village in the land of Gotham, the inhabitants of which were very ugly, very ignorant, and very proud; who looked upon the rest of their fellow creatures as beings of an inferior nature, each deeming himself something more, and all the rest of the species something less than human. This people, among their other defects, had one peculiarity in the organs of vision, which prevented them from seeing any object distinctly when they looked downward upon it. Their village too was governed by laws peculiar to itself, and one, in particular, for which, no doubt, there were very substantial reasons, though we have never been able to discover them, by which it was enacted, that no inhabitant of the said village should, on pain of perpetual banishment, either purchase, receive, or hold in their possession a looking-glass, mirror, or any piece of polished metal, or earthen ware whatever. This law was so religiously observed that the very word *looking-glass* was at length quite forgot and unknown.

Now it came to pass, in process of time, that a certain great nobleman came to settle in the neighbour-

hood, and hearing of this law, he was determined to indulge a vein of pleasantry, at the expence of the silly inhabitants. For this purpose, he ordered a large room to be furnished with immense mirrors, reaching from the ceiling to the floor, so that the walls being entirely concealed, it had the appearance of four different rooms. A card was then circulated in the village, inviting a chosen number of the inhabitants, who were most conspicuous for their horrible deformity, and still more horrible affectation, to sup with his lordship at his own house, the next evening, where they should be entertained with the sight of a monster, the most frightful and hideous that ever fable feigned, or fear conceived. At the time appointed the guests met with far more devotion and punctuality than ever they had attended a charity sermon; and after they had loaded their bellies with beef, and lightened their heads with punch, up started parson *Squintum*, whose own village was as grim as any monster need be: My Lord, said he, I think it will be most expedient for me to see this monster *first*, that I may discover whether it is not the devil, who has probably assumed a corporeal vehicle to *frighten* the tender lambs of my flock, who should have the *fear of God* before their eyes, and not the *fear of the devil*.

His Lordship rose, and conducting the parson up one flight of stairs to the door, left him, and returned to the company. *Squintum*, who had read Agrippa on occult philosophy, first repeated certain mysterious words, which had more *virtue* in them than was to be found in all the parish besides, and then solemnly put forth his hand and opened the door; but was so terrified, (for his reverence saw manifold) with the host of chimeras that glared before his eyes, though only so many reflections of his own horrid image in the glass, that without staying to shut the door, he came thundering down stairs, averring, by all the powers of light and darkness, that he had seen a legion of devils, in

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ten thousand hideous shapes, and one in particular like a camel with the head of an elephant, and a proboscis, probably meaning his own, at least six yards long; protesting he had plainly distinguished Appolyon, Belzebub, Belial, and Mammon, the demons of murder, pride, lust, and covetousness.

Z——ds, cried squire Gutling, a parson, and afraid of the devil! He spake, and rising, showed a huge round belly, which very much resembled what it really was, an immense hog'shead of *liquor*, and having gravely stroked it, reeled, half drunk, towards the foot of the stair-case, which, after many a weary puff, heavy groan, and hearty curse, he had almost ascended, when, the door being open, he was so suddenly scared by the sight of a most hideous monster indeed, which seemed to rise, as he rose, in the glass, before him, that without any more ado he took the shortest way down stairs, to the great peril of his enormous paunch, which before was ready to burst with punch and pudding, and now came with such a vengeance on the floor, that he lay groaning and sobing most lamentably, whilst the big drops of sweat ran from every pore of his face, like water down a pane of glass during a thunder shower. My Lord, at length, coming to his assistance, the crest-fallen squire grasped and held him by the legs, imploring him to order the servants to shut the door of Hell, or the monster would certainly overtake and devour him in a few moments. Being assured that it was chained, and could not break loose, he consented to let the servants heave his battered bones from the ground, and reconduct him to his seat, which he had no sooner gained, than he burst into a fit of d——g, swearing the parson was a cursed liar, as he had always thought him; for there was but one devil, and enough too, added he, for just as I reached the door, he rose in the form of a prodigious toad, as high as a steeple, for he stood on his hinder legs, and carried a tremendous paunch before him, swollen with poison, to the size of a hay stack."

I'll do for him and all the devils in 'li, that I will, cried *Brag*, a roaring bully, with a mouth as wide as a cannon, and a tongue almost as loud, who, because one of his ancestors, as was reported, had been the greatest warrior of his age, called himself one too, and lest the vulgar, whose eyes are seldom very discerning, should mistake him for a coward, he always wore a scarlet coat, cocked hat, and rusty sword, undeniable signs of courage; *signs* indeed! though no more the reality than the sign of St. George and the dragon is the real knight and individual dragon themselves.

That I will, repeated *Brag*, with a frown; at the same time, with all his might, attempting to draw his sword from its scabbard, to which it was so *firmly* attached, having snugly slept in its embraces for half a century at least, that finding it was utterly impossible to disengage it, he grasped it, sheathed as it was, and brandishing it, to the no small terror of all present, with stately tread he stalked towards the stair, marshalling all his *heorism*, and intrepidity in his countenance; which, to give the devil his due, was truly brazen; but unluckily, leaving his tender heart unguarded, it began to bounce about in his bosom, like a wild cat confined in an iron cage, and to his great chagrin he *felt*, nay even *heard* it beat quicker and shorter every step he took towards the fatal door; but the very moment our unfortunate hero beheld that most monstrous of monsters, self, confessed in all his terrors before his face, it made such a sudden revulsion in his entrails, that every nose in the house was almost instantly made as sensible as himself of his shameful disgrace. The servants in waiting immediately hastened to his assistance, and found the champion in a situation that diverted their sight as much as it offended another sense. His eyes, which seemed bursting from his head, were fixed on his own frightful phiz reflected in the glass, his mouth wide open, and his tongue darted out like a

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serpent's sting, his left hand clinched on his breast, and in his right he held the sword and scabbard, raised far above his head, in a most formidable manner, and his legs striding most dreadfully indeed. In this posture, he stood like a statue, petrified with fear, and it was not without the greatest difficulty the servants could prevail on him to gather as much courage as to face about and come down stairs to his companions, whose laughter, on the occasion, was only equalled by their fear.

Next rose a ghastly chymist, six feet and an half high, who measured, from his head to the waist-band of his breeches, one foot eleven inches (the reader may guess the length of his shanks,) he, not at all daunted by the ill success of his brethren, bravely resolved to face it himself. With two strides he reached the foot of the stair-case, with two more he was at the top; but being in much greater haste to return, some authors confidently assert that he took but *one* stride back, whilst others as confidently maintain that he made *two*, one down stairs, the other to his chair, where, as soon as he had seated himself, he deposed, upon oath, that he had seen satan himself, either in the shape of a maypole split three-fourths of the way upwards, to make a pair of legs, or else an immense pair of tongs, but which, he could not positively determine, as he had made the best of his way back again, as soon as the devil appeared.

Next rose a mathematician, formed according to the strictest rules, not of *natural*, but *geometrical* proportion. His head was a globe, his nose bore some resemblance to a quadrant; his chin and mouth formed a triangle, his body an oblong square, and his legs two cylinders. He measuring his pace, with the nicest exactness, contrived to advance a foot every step, by which means he reached the summit of the stair-case in something less than half an hour; where, instead of being terrified, as

the rest had been before him, he stood half an hour more, calculating the dimensions of the grotesque figure before him; which having done, he very gravely began to descend, and, after an absence of more than an hour, at length reached his chair, where, after communicating his profound observations, he concluded by observing, that though it was the best proportioned *body* he ever saw, yet it was at the same time a most awkward and unnatural *figure*.

It would be tedious to mention all the observations and contradictory reports of those that went to see the monster, but all agreed that they had never conceived, nor could have believed that such a monster existed on *terra firma*. A lean, half-starved son of Apollo, swore it was a *Famine*, which God Almighty had sent to punish the impiety of our *sal* age, where a depraved taste for roast beef and plumb-pudding had set every body's stomach against Epic, and even Lyric poetry; but an eminent critic coming that instant down stairs, according to custom, fell upon the poor poet, and contradicting every word he said, proved to demonstration that the monster above was the Plague! An old griping miser, whose *wealth* was only a solitary *million*, but whose *poverty* was deplorable, and like his desires, without *bounds*, with a countenance the most terrified and terrifying imaginable, whilst his few silver hairs stood erect with fear, and his eyes, rushing from their deep caves in the centre of his head, glared like two comets, swore that it was some infernal Dutch *miser*, who had come to rob and oppress the poor, to ravish the half-chewed morsel from the orphan's mouth; nay, by G—d, said he, to rip up the bellies for what they had already swallowed, and with these words he ran home to secure his own mite.

An honest Hibernian, who had been dipt in the Shannon, and who had been long settled in the village, and who would not yield the palm of ignorance to the worst of them, came headlong down stairs, out of

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THE CHIMERA.

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breath; Arrah! my honies, said he, with an arch leer, ye're all a parcel of lying, cursing, swearing rascals, for by my shoul, this here devil is no more a devil than the devil himself is: Arrah, what think ye, I've been hunting him about the room this hour and more, and when I ran to him he ran to me,—a brazen faced rogue: and then stood staring, and grinning, and making faces at me, with all the eyes, mouths, and faces in his head; and being an honest man, I blushed, and, behold, he blushed too. Arrah, my jewel, I said, says I, this wont do; you must come along with me; then, by St Patrick, I caught him a score of times, and would have brought him down stairs, but the thief would not let me, and so I e'en was forced to come without him.

I have hitherto forbore to mention the opinion of any of the ladies present, all of whom, in their turns, went to see the monster; and shall now only relate two.—A youthful antiquated lady, painted like a sign post, with an immense hooped petticoat, and a head-dress full as large, so that, when she stood, her appearance very much resembled that of an hour-glass; after having taken only a momentary view, declared, that if it was not the *very* devil, it must be *something else*. She had scarcely pronounced the words when a blooming girl of fifteen, who had been chosen purposely to hear her opinion, came down stairs, and related, with the most charming innocence, how she had seen and kissed a smiling angel; for though she had asked it a hundred questions, it only answered by looks and smiles. So perfectly lovely is *natural* beauty, and so imperfect the art of portrait, alias, face-painting.

Now, when every individual had seen this monstrous *Proteus*, who appeared in a different shape to every spectator, they were most unaccountably puzzled, and at the same time almost terrified to distraction; however, after a long and sharp debate, what were the safest methods to be taken in so critical a situation, it was at length agreed, *nemine contradicente*, that they

should all go in a body, armed with what first came to hand, and fall upon, and at once rid the world of so horrible a monster. It was in vain that my Lord remonstrated, he saw and repented his folly too late; and not daring to oppose so furious a multitude, he quietly suffered them to arm themselves with the various implements of cookery, contained in the magazines of his own kitchen and scullery. Being at length completely armed with pokers, tongs, spits, gridirons, shovels, &c. &c. our heroes moved in firm phalanx toward the scene of action; but when they had nearly arrived at the top of the stairs, a question started which had almost overthrown them without striking a blow. The question was, Who should first enter the fatal chamber? At length the above-mentioned Irishman, with a huge warming-pan in his right-hand, a kettle in his left-hand, boldly pushed forward, and bursting open the door, instantly rushed at his own figure, which presented itself before him as he entered, and with both his weapons discharging a double blow, a dreadful crash followed, and an immense square mirror fell into ten thousand shivers at the feet of the conqueror, who, ringing his pan and kettle together in token of victory, swore he had killed the monster as *dead* as any man *alive*. At the word *dead*, the whole gang, who till now stood trembling on the stair-case, rushed into the room.—In a moment the whole mystery was unraveled; each by seeing his companion in the mirror, at once plainly perceiving that Self was the only monster, confounded they stood at some distance from the conqueror,—whilst he happening to turn round saw his own figure again on the other side of the room, Help, help, cried Paddy, he's come to life again; what the plague does the monster mean? I've killed you once, and a'nt you content? Howsomever I'll kill you once more, and if you are determined to live when you are *dead*, like a good Christian, you may with all my heart, mind it's not my fault, by my shoul is'nt it: but hark

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ye, don't let me see you here again; egad, if I catch you alive or dead, I'll tar and feather you. Then again heaving both his handcrow weapons, the most dreadful consequences followed, and the whole company fell upon the mirrors with one accord, in a few minutes laid them all in universal ruin, and in ten thousand fragments on the floor; where they would probably have stamped them to dust, had not a sudden thought, like an electric shock, struck all present, each of whom immediately gathered as many of the broken pieces as he could conveniently carry, and ran home with them.

And now, reader, what could this mean? Mark the wickedness, the treachery, the depravity of the human heart. These mirrors, perhaps you will say, were carried about by the owners to remind them of their own deformity. No such thing; but merely to expose both friends and foes, by holding the mirror before their faces on every occasion, and where or whenever they meet them; and History says, that since the introduction of looking-glasses in this unhappy village, every individual was perfectly acquainted with all the faults of all the rest of the inhabitants, but utterly ignorant of his own; for, like criminals before the judge, each was so ashamed of his own blasphemy against himself on this occasion, that no one ever afterwards durst presume to look himself in the face.

Thoughts on the Death of Prince Potemkin.

THE death of prince Potemkin will probably be attended with beneficial consequences to Europe. That active and intriguing man, had, in all human probability, views upon the government that would have induced him to foment dissensions with one power or other perpetually. The grand duke of Russia, never having been entrusted by his mother with any military

command, and being afraid to conciliate popular favour, lest he should awaken the jealousy, and incur the displeasure of the empress, a wide theatre was thus laid open to awaken the ambition of a person of a more timid character than Potemkin. The army was, in a great measure, at his devotion; his power became thus so great, that his ascendancy over the empress, even was seemingly uncontrollable; and there is every reason to think that he only waited the period of her dissolution to declare himself. Till that time, it was obviously his interest that the army should be kept on foot; and to do that, some pretext must have been devised to give them employment. It was possibly, with this view, that the empress was instigated to support the exiled prince of France; or, that intrigues were carrying on respecting Poland, which would have involved Europe in war and bloodshed. By the death of this restless animal, there is reason to hope these evils will be warded off. The empress, now in an advanced age, may be expected to wish for repose. Her finances are exhausted, and need to be repaired. The grand duke has nothing to hope for, and much to dread from war; nor is there a prospect that time could be allowed for any other general to establish his power, before the accession of that prince to the throne. The nobles therefore, in general, may be expected to pay their court to the prince, by being forward in recommending the measures they know will prove agreeable to him. These are the grounds on which may be founded a reasonable hope of pacific measures being now adopted seriously by the Russian court.

It may appear somewhat extraordinary for those who recollect the mean extraction of Potemkin to conceive that he could ever have indulged the hope of being exalted to that elevated rank to which we have supposed he aspired. But he had an instance before his eyes, of a similar exaltation to supreme power, of a person of as mean extraction, in the late duke of Cour-

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PRINCE POTESKIN.

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land, whose history, were it not authenticated by the most undeniable documents, would be deemed too marvellous and incredible even for a romance. The particulars of it, extracted from Mr Coxe's travels in Denmark, lately published, will probably prove interesting to our readers. It affords an awful lesson of the miseries to which mankind may be subjected by the mischievous disposition of *one* human being entrusted with absolute power, and of the insufficiency of that power, when so exercised, to procure happiness to him who possessed it. Wo be to the spirit of despotism, for it corrupts the human heart, and banishes happiness from among mankind! The owner says to his slave, I have the power of punishing thee, and I shall do it.—But he forgets, that he thus inflicts a wound upon himself that admits not of any cure. Conscious terrors lay hold of his soul, that never can be banished from it.

Anecdotes of John Ernest Biron, the last Duke of Courland.

JOHN ERNEST Biron was descended from a family of mean extraction. His grandfather, whose name was Buren, or Bieren, was head groom to James the third, duke of Courland, and obtained from his master the present of a small estate in land. His son accompanied prince Alexander, youngest son of the duke of Courland, in a campaign into Hungary against the Turks, in quality of groom of his horse, and with the rank of lieutenant. Prince Alexander being killed before Buda, in 1686, Biron returned into Courland, and was appointed master-huntsman to the duke.

Ernest John, his second son, was born in 1687, received the early part of his education in Courland, and

was sent to the university of Königsberg in Prussia, where he continued until some youthful imprudences compelled him to retire.

In 1714, he made his appearance at St. Petersburg and solicited the place of page to the princess Charlotte, wife of the tsarovich Alexey; but being contemptuously rejected as a person of mean extraction, retired to Mittau, and chanced to ingratiate himself with count Bestuchef, master of the household to Anne, widow of Fredric William duke of Courland, who resided at Mittau. Having, through his means, obtained the office of gentleman of the chamber, and being of a handsome figure and polite address, he soon gained the good-will of the duchess, and became her chief favourite. The first use which he made of his favour, was to obtain the disgrace and removal of his benefactor Bestuchef. He soon gained such an entire ascendancy over the affections of his mistress, that his will became her's; and the upstart favourite offended by his arrogance, the whole body of the nobility of Courland.

Having espoused mademoiselle de Trenden, a lady of noble family, and maid of honour to the duchess, he endeavoured, by means of that alliance, and the favour of his mistress, to be admitted into the body of nobles; but his solicitations were rejected with great contempt.

His ascendancy over the duchess, his spirit of intrigue, and his extreme arrogance, were so notorious, that when Anne was declared sovereign of Russia, one of the articles proposed to her by the council of state at Moscow, expressly stipulated, that she should not bring Biron into Russia. She consented, but instantly broke her word; for she had scarcely arrived at Moscow, before he made his appearance at her court.

By his secret advice, the empress formed a strong party among the Russian nobility, gained the guards, and brought about the revolution, which restored to the crown despotic authority.

Within the space of a few months, Biron was appointed gentleman of the bed-chamber, knight of the order of St. Andrew, and lord high chamberlain, and, as Manstein says, was omnipotent in the government; for, during the whole reign of Anne, and some weeks after her death, he ruled, with despotic sway, the vast empire of Russia.

On the death of Ferdinand Ketler, in 1737, the empress dispatched general Bismarck, governor of Riga, to Mittau, at the head of a considerable army. The nobles having assembled in the cathedral, Bismarck surrounded the church with troops, and compelled them to elect, for their sovereign, the same Biron whom they had refused to admit into their corps. But his new dignity did not prevent him from keeping his post of high chamberlain, and his wife that of first lady of the bed-chamber.

Biron governed Courland with the same despotic spirit with which he governed Russia; and the nobles who had been accustomed to great freedom of debate in their diets, were suddenly restrained. Those who ventured to oppose his will, or to speak with their usual freedom, were privately seized by persons in masks, forced into kibitkas, and conveyed to Siberia.

Of a violent and sanguinary temper, Biron ruled Russia with the knout in his hand, and compelled his imperial mistress, who was naturally of a mild and merciful disposition, to order acts of the most atrocious cruelty, though she oftentimes interceded, but in vain, with tears in her eyes, for the unhappy victims of his suspicion and vengeance.

The cruelties exercised upon the most illustrious persons of the country, almost exceed belief; and Manstein conjectures, that 'during the ten years in which Biron's power continued, above 20,000 persons were sent to Siberia, of whom scarcely 5,000 were ever more heard of.'

The violence of his temper would break forth in a manner most disrespectful to the empress. Once in particular, while the duke of Bevern had an audience, Biron burst into the apartment, without ceremony, threatening with the most horrid imprecations, that he would no longer be vexed and tormented by her servants, but would retire into Courland. Having uttered these words, he quitted the room and shut the door with great violence. The empress, in the highest consternation, lifted up her hands to heaven, then clasped them together, and being almost ready to faint, she opened the window for fresh air. While she continued in this agitation, the duchess of Courland, accompanied with her children, entered the room, knelt down, and entreated the empress to forget and forgive the passionate behaviour of her husband. Anne in this, as in every other instance, relented, and bore with his insolence.

His influence over his imperial mistress was such, that during the sitting of the cabinet council, she used frequently to repair to an adjoining room, in which her favourite remained, to receive his advice, or rather his orders. She had no table of her own, but used to dine with his family.

He knew only two languages, the German, and his native jargon spoken in Courland; so that he governed the extensive empire of Russia without even understanding its language. He even piqued himself on his ignorance of that tongue, having once said, in the presence of the empress Anne, that he would not learn the Russian, because he could not bear to read, before her majesty, all the reports and memorials which were daily transmitted to him.

Biron was undoubtedly a man of very great capacity; during his whole administration, the external splendour of the Russian empire, and its internal tranquillity, announced the wisdom of his measures; and

he shewed his judgment in employing such a statesman as Osterman, and such a general as Munich.

He amassed an enormous fortune in money and jewels; and on public occasions, his magnificence far exceeded the magnificence of the empress.

He had so long directed the affairs of a great empire, that he could not brook retiring into Courland. He accordingly prevailed upon the empress, on her death-bed, to appoint her great nephew, prince Ivan, her successor, and himself regent, until the prince had attained the age of seventeen; and he managed this whole transaction with so much art, that he seemed only to accept the regency at the earnest request and recommendation of marshal Munich, the chancellor Osterman, and the principal Russian nobility, as it were for the good of the empire, and not to satisfy his own ambition.

Having thus secured the regency, to the exclusion of Anne, the mother of the young emperor, the first act of his power in that capacity, was to obtain for himself a clear revenue of 500,000 * roubles per annum, and the title of imperial highness.

The power which he had thus acquired by intrigue, he attempted to secure by repeated acts of arrogance, persecution, and cruelty. Piquets were placed in the streets to prevent commotions. The numerous spies which he entertained brought him vague accounts of contemptuous expressions, and ill-formed plots. Such numbers were arrested, that scarcely a day passed in which persons suspected were not imprisoned and tortured in order to force confession. But instead of disarming the envy and jealousy of the natives, who were disaffected at being governed by a foreigner, he increased his own unpopularity by the haughtiness of his demeanour, and treated even the

* 100,000. according to the value of a rouble of that period.

parents of his sovereign with the most extreme brutality.

It was natural that prince Anthony Ulric and the princess Anne, the father and mother of the infant emperor, should be disaffected at being set aside, and a foreigner preferred to the regency; and Anthony Ulric, who was a prince of great spirit, expressed his disapprobation in the strongest terms even to the regent himself.

The duke of Courland suspecting that the prince was forming cabals against his government, called on him early one morning unexpectedly, and without being announced; 'Your highness,' he said, 'does not deal fairly with me; for you promised to inform me if any disaffected persons caballed against me, and you now know what intrigues are carrying on against me.' 'I know not,' replied the prince, 'that any thing is now in agitation which will be detrimental to the emperor and the country.' 'I will take care,' returned Biron, 'to place this empire in such a situation, as no other person is capable of doing; for I am neither deficient in knowledge or in power.' 'The nobles must assist you,' said the prince, 'and you must all be accountable to the emperor.' 'Am I not regent,' replied Biron, 'with absolute authority? Such assertions, sir, may occasion great commotions; and your highness must know, that whenever factions arise, the emperor and the country are in danger; and what must be the inevitable consequence, if you and I should be at variance?'—'A massacre!' returned the prince with great warmth, putting at the same time his hand upon his sword.

After much altercation, the prince accused Biron of having forged the testament and signature of the empress; and the duke quitted the apartment with these words: 'This affair, sir, is of such importance, that it must be laid before the principal nobility of the realm.' Repairing instantly to his palace, he sum-

moned the cabinet council, the senate, and the principal nobility, and acquainted them with the conversation which had passed between him and the prince. But when the imperial minister, count Keyserling, who was present, endeavoured to justify the prince, Biron called the prince a liar, who had misrepresented the conversation; and turning to Keyserling, said, 'We want here no advocates, and no lawyer's quirks;' and walking up and down the apartment in great agitation exclaimed, 'Am I a poisoner! or do I contend for the throne and the sceptre!'

The princess Anne, who had been informed of the misunderstanding, now arriving, he turned to her, and explained, with great bitterness, what had already passed. Anne was exceedingly affected, and appeared to blame her husband's conduct. At length, the prince himself being summoned, was prevailed upon to attend, and soon afterward made his appearance. Being reprimanded by Biron, and by several who were present, in the grossest terms, his highness, at length, submitted to demand pardon, the tears starting from his eyes, from this necessary, but degrading concession; and the affair was hushed up.

Soon afterwards, the regent sent a message by marshal Munich, ordering the prince to resign his military employments, and not to stir out of his chamber.— But this state of things could not last long. The regent at variance with the parents of the emperor, suspicious of plots forming against him, and detested by the nation in general, became agitated and uneasy, felt the precariousness of his present situation, paid his court with great assiduity to the princess Elizabeth, and seems even to have formed the design of marrying her to the prince, his eldest son, and of raising her, or her nephew the duke of Holstein, to the throne of Russia. He was imprudent enough to declare publicly, that if the princess Anne was refractory, he would

send her husband into Germany, and place the duke of Holstein on the throne.

While he was fluctuating concerning his future conduct, and laying plans to remove those who gave him umbrage, his own ruin came from a powerful quarter which he did not expect, and was not prepared to resist. Marshal Munich, secretly displeased with the regent at not being appointed generalissimo of the Russian forces, fomented the discontents, awakened the suspicions of the princess Anne, and prevailed upon her to permit him to arrest the duke of Courland. His offer being accepted, he succeeded in securing the person of the regent, and arresting him on the 18th of December, only twenty days after he had been appointed to the regency. Lieutenant-colonel Manstein, who was employed by Munich on that memorable occasion, and who has related the transaction in his authentic memoirs, penetrated, at the head of only twenty men into the palace inhabited by the duke of Courland, though guarded by forty soldiers, who were placed under the windows of the regent's bed-chamber, and by numerous centinels posted in the several apartments through which he was to pass. Being personally known to the centinels, they permitted him to pass, thinking that he had an affair of consequence to communicate to the regent. Having burst open the door of his bed-chamber, he approached the bed in which the duke and duchess were so fast asleep, that the noise did not awaken them. On drawing the curtains, both started up in surprise, and the duke instantly got out of bed with an intention to escape, but was prevented by Manstein, who threw himself upon him, and held him fast till the soldiers came to his assistance. In this interval the duke had disengaged himself from Manstein, and endeavouring to burst from the soldiers who had laid hold of his arm, received several blows from the but-ends of their muskets. Being at length thrown

down in the floor, his mouth gagged with a handkerchief, and his hands tied behind him with an officer's sash, he was led to the guard-room, where, being covered with a soldier's cloak, he was conveyed in a carriage to the winter palace, in which the princess Anne resided. While he was leading away, the duchess sprang out of her bed, and though only in her shift, ran after him, screaming, in an agony of despair, into the street, till being forced away by the soldiers, she dropped down upon the snow, and would have perished with cold, if the captain of the guard had not sent for some clothes to cover her, and reconducted her to her apartment.

The next day the duke and his family were conveyed to the fortress of Schlusselfburgh; and in June were removed to Pelim, a small town in Siberia, where he was imprisoned in a wooden house under the strictest confinement. Fortunately he did not long occupy this deary prison. The empress Elizabeth had no sooner ascended the throne, by the deposition of Ivan, than she recalled Biron from his imprisonment; and if his misfortunes had not softened his vindictive spirit, he enjoyed the pleasure of seeing his enemy, marshal Munich, occupy that prison which he had just quitted.

Biron was transferred to Yaroslaf, where he had a comfortable mansion assigned to him and his family, five roubles a day, and the permission of hunting within twenty or thirty miles of Yaroslaf. In this situation, wretched when contrasted with his former dignified station as the omnipotent favourite of Anne, or as regent of Russia, but a paradise when compared with his prison at Pelim, he passed his days during the whole reign of Elizabeth.

On the demise of Elizabeth, Peter the third recalled Biron to Petersburg, but did not reinstate him in the duchy of Courland. Biron had refused, during his confinement, to resign his right to that duchy, although he was offered his liberty, and a pension of

100,000 roubles per annum; nor could he be prevailed upon by Peter the third to abdicate in favour of the duke of Holstein; nobly adding, that nothing should induce him to do such an injury to his family; but that he would prefer even a second imprisonment.

Catharine, soon after the revolution which placed her on the throne of Peter the Great, took compassion on his misfortunes, and restored him to his former dignity.

Biron repaired to Mittau in 1763, twenty-eight years after he had been elected duke of Courland, and for the first time since he had been raised to that dignity. Prince Charles of Saxony, although supported by a large party in Courland, yet receiving no assistance from his father Augustus the third, was compelled to retire before the Russian forces; and Biron received the oaths of allegiance and fidelity from the whole nation.

In 1764, he obtained from the king and republic of Poland the investiture of Courland for his eldest son Peter, the present duke; in 1769, abdicated in his favour; and, in 1772, closed at Mittau, in the eighty-third year of his age, a life of almost unparalleled vicissitude.

Since you have been in place, said M. de Gramont to the chancellor d'Aguesseau, since that time, with the knowledge you have of the manœuvres and the chicanery of men, have you never thought of a method of preventing chicaneries, and abridging processes.—Without doubt, I have thought of it, answered the magistrate, and I even thought of it so seriously, as to begin to write. But when I reflected on the great number of agents, advocates, and their dependants, whom this regulation would ruin, compassion made the pen fall out of my hand.

William and Nancy. A Ballad.

I.

WAILST on her sailor's breast, reclin'd
 The beauteous Nancy mourn'd,
 The jolly tar, with truth sincere,
 Rebuk'd each unavailing tear,
 Yet every kiss return'd.
 "O William let me go with thee,
 (The sweet bewailer cry'd)
 Let me with thee dear youth repose,
 Share all thy transports, all thy woes,
 "And be thy bonny bride."

II.

'Twas not a welcome breeze that then
 Could real rapture prove;
 'Twas not sweet friendship's mirthful voice,
 When round the ship the tars rejoice,
 But 'twas the test of love.
 Whilst wave on wave their course pursu'd,
 And bore the ship amain:
 What pleasure did not William feel,
 What charms did Nancy not reveal,
 'Twas bliss that brav'd decay.

III.

One fatal night—the frightful storm
 Tore William from her arms;
 The rattlins felt his eager hand
 When up the shrouds he sought command,
 To quell its rude alarms!
 She saw him venture on the yard,
 Yet scorn'd she to bewail;
 Dauntless, she view'd the briny wave
 The mainmast shake, the rigging lave,
 And tear the swelling sail!

IV.

Bold William spied her on the deck,
 And cheer'd her with a smile;
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But Oh! a harder, keener blast,
 His poor exhausted soul o'ercaft;
 He view'd his fate the while:
 A whirlwind forc'd him from the yard,
 And plung'd him in the main!
 Nancy beheld with frantic fear,
 "And now (she cry'd) my life, my dear,
 I'll follow thee again."

V.

William, emerging from the deep,
 A tar (his friend) survey'd;
 But how were friendship's woes express'd,
 When Nancy, on her sailor's breast,
 His timely help delay'd.
 But William press'd the close embrace,
 The dawn of hope was nigh;
 A refuge in his friend he found;
 A rope had grasp'd his arm around,
 And wav'd his destiny.

VI.

The winds were hush'd, when safe on board,
 All hail'd the rescu'd pair;
 The rose once more, on Nancy's face,
 Dispell'd the lily's sickly grace,
 And blossom'd in a tear.
 The jolly crew now crowd the waist,
 Brisk gales their joys approve.
 William his tender hopes confesses,
 And Nancy's lips receive the press
 Of unextinguish'd love.

The Violet and the Rose, by Benedetto Menzini.

ALTRI la rosa
 Vaga, amorosa
 Loda per lo splendor di sua belta;
 Ma la viola
 Certo che sola
 Ricca di piu bel pregio ella sen va.

Se languidetta
 In full' erbetta
 Le sue pallide foglie all' aura apri,
 Quel suo pallore
 Segno e d' un core,
 Che per piaga amorosa illanguidl.
 Orni il suo crine
 Di porporine
 Rose in mezzo a' bicchier la gioventù ;
 Che degli amanti
 A' tristi pianti,
 Bella viola, il caro fior sei tu.

[*A translation is requested.*]

Lines written on a Gaming Table.

To gild o'er av'rice with a specious name,
 To suffer torment, while for sport you game ;
 Time to reverse, and order to defy,
 To make your temper subject to a dye ;
 To curse your fate, for each unlucky throw,
 Your reason, sense, and prudence to forego ;
 To call each aid infernal to your part,
 To sit with anxious eyes, and aching heart,
 And fortune, time, and health, to throw away,
 Is what our modern men of taste call PLAY.

M. G.

An Advice to the Fair.

COME then RESERVE !—yet from thy train,
 Banish contempt and cold disdain :
 Teach the Fair the magic art,
 To act the decent distant part ;
 To husband well their complaisance ;
 Nor let e'en wit too far advance ;
 But o'er each charm the fairest own,
 Be still a graceful umbrage thrown.

On Love.

Love is produced from a delicate union of physical wants, and moral sentiments; its first effect is to submit the stronger sex to the weaker.

The lover conquers, by appearing to be subdued; and his mistress finds, in the necessity of defending herself, a plausible reason for arbitrary sway; and from the fears of virgin modesty, arises the most decided superiority. Armed at first with cruelty, to discourage hope, she continues rigorous to prove his constancy, and, with wonderful address, in the same instant, will excite desire and impress respect. Ever attentive to protract her defeat, even when it is most desired; ever inclined to facilitate the means, even when she most fears the accomplishment; she exercises on her fascinated lover, all that powerful ascendancy, which results from the united charms of wit, caprice, and beauty; one moment dispiriting him with denials, the next encouraging him by kindness:—In fine, trying every method to prolong the combat, rather than retire from danger; she at length arrives at the summit of female dominion, and becomes more dear to her lover by the very obstacles she places in the way of his happiness.

Love communicates to the soul an incomprehensible mixture of force and weakness.

The greatest difficulties cannot daunt the lover who is animated by the charms of his mistress; yet the slightest rigour is sufficient to drive him to despair.

In the wide round of this extensive ball, nothing truly interests love, save the object beloved.

Love, were it only founded on the qualities of the mind, would leave the passions to stagnate, and sense must degenerate into apathy. Were it only attached to the exterior beauties of person, the most delicate springs of the heart would relax; and a thousand sensations, as tender as they are rational, would be lost to the lover.

Real love, then, is equally engaged by moral beauties and physical attractions: It is tender and impassioned, re-

spectful and ardent, delicate and impetuous, sighing after enjoyment, but wishing only to obtain it by sentiment. It may (and perhaps ought to) be enterprising. But true love seeks not exclusively its own happiness; because, to render a lover happy, that happiness must be reciprocal.

In the midst of mankind, a lover is, alone, unconcerned in the bustle of human affairs; from the moment he truly loves, he is no longer merely a man; he is more,—he is a lover! To the object beloved, every thought is connected, every action assimilates. His solitary walks are to think uninterruptedly of his mistress; his frequent stops and pauses, proceed from the same thoughts, more dignified, more sublimated.

We must credit the lover for many virtues. Love supposes him possessor of all!

In fact, none but a generous and noble soul is susceptible of a sentiment so pure, so disinterested, so celestial: It necessarily implies a refined taste, and superior judgment, to love a beautiful and virtuous woman, and to succeed in pleasing: How essential is it nearly to resemble her! So a lover is at once brave, susceptible, tender, humane, and generous. The sweet passion with which he is inspired, contributes to elevate and develop those fine qualities; and insensibly confers a greater energy on their action and effects.

Sterne has very prettily said of himself, that "if ever he should be capable of a mean or ungenerous action it must be in the interval between two tender passions."

M.

New Invention.

RULING MACHINE.

In the progress of improvements, many objects that are at first view, of seemingly little importance, receive amendments, which contribute their share in rendering the circumstances of the people more easy, and their exertions more vigorous; and of course these contribute, in a very considerable degree, to augment the national prosperity.

In this class may be ranked the invention which now claims our attention. The expence of ruling a set of books to a merchant, does not seem to be an object of much importance to him; yet if all the money laid out on this single article, in one year, within the island of Britain, was accumulated into one, it would amount to an astonishing sum. The whole of this sum may now be placed to the account of national oeconomy; for the proprietor of this invention, actually sells books, ruled in any manner that can be desired, at the same price that the paper alone, of which these books consist, would have cost in any stationer's shop.

Before this invention was known, the ruling of a merchant's books, usually cost about as much as the paper: In some cases, it amounted to more than twice that sum. Now, the whole of this expence may be avoided, and a saving, of from one to two hundred *per cent.* be made upon this article. Nor is this all; the work is much more neatly and accurately performed, than it used to be when done by the hand, so that the whole appears more elegant, and pleasing to the eye, than it otherwise would have been.

Not only are the red or black ink lines drawn upon the paper in any number or form that shall be required; but also, if desired, faint lines, resembling those made with a leaden pencil, are drawn across the paper, to keep the lines of writing equally distant from each other, and straight. These also are drawn with such exact precision, as far to exceed, in beauty, any thing usually done with the hand, and without any additional charge.

Nothing makes writing appear to so much advantage, as an exact uniformity in the size of every letter, and in the distance between every line. For these reasons, I cannot help considering this, as a very great aid to teachers of writing, whose scholars, if furnished with paper thus ruled, either for text, half text, or single lines, will sooner exhibit beautiful specimens of writing, than others who are deprived of this aid.

On these accounts, this simple invention may be ranked among those of the useful, though not of the most brilliant kind. Its oeconomical effects will be so universally diffu-

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fed among all ranks, that it will not, to a superficial ob-
server, be of great magnitude. A pin also, is a small object,
nor does the value of those employed by any one person,
at a time, amount to a great sum; but the sum total, ex-
pended on this article, in a course of years, exceeds the
value of all the diamonds in the world, though one dia-
mond, when considered by itself, may appear to be of
much greater consequence, than perhaps all the pins that
ever were made.

It is by no means certain, however, if Mr Ainslie can
claim the sole merit of this invention; for Abbe *Martini*,
in his travels in Italy, mentions, that an invention of this
sort, was then practised, I think, at Rome; and a person
in London, has, I believe, practised something of the same
kind. But it is of no consequence to the buyer, who was
the original inventor; his only business is to know who
it is that can supply him best and cheapest, with the ar-
ticles he has occasion for; nor does it seem to be possible
for him to get this article at a lower price, than—nothing.

Oriental Architecture.

A GENTLEMAN in India, who has lately visited the tombs
at Surat, which have been so often taken notice of by tra-
vellers for the magnificence of their architecture, has finish-
ed, it is said, an elegant model of this singular structure,
which exhibits the whole at one view, and is esteemed a
CHEF D'OEUVRE in its kind, by all who have seen it.

The artist, not content with merely delineating these
objects, has also entered into a scientific disquisition on the
nature of the architecture there employed.—He is decided-
ly of opinion, that these tombs belong to an order of
architecture totally different from the five well known orders,
and which he has dignified with the name of the ORIENTAL
COMPOSITE; being composed of parts taken from the Gothic
and Saracenic, between which, he says, there is a manifest
distinction.

His disquisition further pretends to prove the great anti-
quity of Hindostanic architecture; and he thinks its unifor-
mity

ty very deservedly merits the name of a distinct order, and even imagines it the mother of *all* the rest.

Thus far our communication from India, which is less satisfactory than could be wished: When the model arrives in Britain which there is reason to hope it will do, and when the dissertation respecting it shall be published, *connoisseurs* will be better able to judge of the probability of these conjectures, than from the imperfect notice of it above given, which appears to be in some respects imperfect, or inconsistent; for if the architecture at the tombs of Surat, be compounded of the Gothic and Saracenic, it would seem that this can only be of modern date: Nor can this composite order be that which is called the *Hindostanic* architecture, which is supposed to be the mother of all the orders of architecture that have appeared in Europe. Perhaps this general bias among men, to derive one stile of architecture from another, because of some resemblance that may be traced between them, is not well founded. The objects, from whence they have been all evidently derived, are to be met with every where; and the application of them to the construction of buildings, is so obvious, and their arrangement, *in their simplest state*, so natural, that I can see nothing inconsistent in supposing that many different nations, which had no communication with each other, might have thus at first employed them; and that accident, fancy, and whim, might have produced the several varieties that exist, without imitations from one another.

Parliamentary Proceedings.

Slave Trade,—continued from p. 88.

Friday, April 8.

Mr Wilberforce, previous to the motion he meant to make on a future day, relative to the slave trade, recommended to the members to consider with attention, the evidence that had been produced before the committee, an abstract of which, he intimated, was now preparing, which, he hoped, would facilitate that enquiry.

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He gave intimation, that when the business came on, he meant to move, briefly, for the entire and total abolition of the slave trade.

Lord Carhampton said, the honourable gentleman had spoken so low that he had not heard him, and wished he would explain precisely, the nature of his motion.

Mr Wilberforce repeated what he had said.

Lord Carhampton thought it was expedient the House should know that there had been insurrections in Dominica. The slaves had conceived an idea, that the governor had the authority of Parliament, and of *Massa King Wilberforce*, for a regulation, by which they would not be obliged to work more than three days in the week, and be paid two shillings a-day; and the other three days were to be holidays of course. He said their design had been to cut the throats of all the white inhabitants, at a given hour, at supper, and to possess themselves of the island; but this commotion had been, with difficulty, quelled. His Lordship said, it was proper it should be known that this had been one of the effects of the honourable gentleman's ill-judged philanthropy.

Mr Wilberforce rejoiced to hear the insurrection had been suppressed. He was convinced that the measures about to be adopted on the subject, instead of raising insurrections, would tend to quell them.

Some others attempting to speak, the speaker stopped them, by observing the conversation was irregular, and contrary to order:—Here the business was dropped till

Monday, April 18.

When the House having resolved itself into a committee on the slave trade, Sir William Dolben in the chair,

Mr Wilberforce opened this important business, in a speech which lasted from five o'clock until past nine. This, he said, was certainly a very awful and critical moment. They had at last met to determine what had been a long while in agitation; and he was extremely anxious to convince both the House and the public, that he had not undertaken the business from any personal motives. He had refused to give up a pursuit that was neither un-
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just nor impolitic: Being formerly persuaded he had engaged in a righteous cause, no consideration on earth, either could, or ought to induce him to abandon it. He was fully determined never to forsake the subject till he had completely accomplished it.

The manner in which slaves are obtained.

Mr Wilberforce said, that the manner in which slaves were procured on the African coast, could, in no respect whatever, be justified: That it appeared, by the strongest testimony, that the trade of selling their subjects, was carried on, not from any natural law in their realms, but merely from the allurements held out by the British merchants, who, without considering on what grounds the vender sold, bought the goods; and thus converted a whole race of their fellow creatures, who were born free, into a set of miserable slaves.

Mr Wilberforce said, he should begin with the river Senegal, the most northerly part of Africa. Here captain Wilson of the royal navy, Captain Dalrymple and Captain Hills, who all had the best means of information, agreed in testifying, that the chiefs in these districts, sent out armed parties, at the approach of the evening, who seized on certain persons who were afterwards sold as slaves, and sent in chains on board the ships. This practice prevailed only when slave ships were on the coast, and at no other season. The same thing prevailed on the river Gambia. He then adduced a great many particular instances of the most shocking barbarity and breach of faith, in this respect, that had come out on evidence before the committee, which strongly evidenced the truth of his proposition.

When the common mode of obtaining slaves did not prove effectual, it was usual, he said, to go among them, furnished with a quantity of brandy, and gunpowder, in order to incite these poor wretches to go to war, to obtain as slaves, those who should be taken prisoners, and to drive a trade of carnage and desolation. It would be found that the same modes of taking slaves prevailed about Sierra Leona; where their houses were burnt, their corns destroyed, and every thing marked the sorrow and distress

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PARLIAMENTARY PROCEEDINGS.

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of the inhabitants. Mr How, the botanist, gave evidence, that the chiefs sent out a party, who brought in men, women, and children: That next morning some of them were redeemed, and others carried on board slave ships. He took notice of the great number of children carried from the coast, amounting to a fourth, sometimes to a third of the cargo. One of the witnesses had declared, that there was no other way by which children could be made slaves, but by their parents having been condemned for witchcraft. The number of the people condemned for this supposed crime, he said, was very small; so that not one fourth part of the children could be thus obtained; they could, therefore, be obtained only by force. He remarked farther, on this head, that the West India gentlemen, themselves, admitted that their slaves were obtained in the manner he had stated.

Mr Wilberforce showed, at great length, the manifold abuses that were introduced into the governments of Africa, by the operation of these principles, and the miserable consequences to the people. He next animadverted on the evidence given by those few who had denied the existence of such practices and enormities, endeavouring to impress the House with an idea, that their minds must have been hardened by long habits, and their understandings perverted. Mr Barnes, he observed, said, when examined before the committee, that he knew nothing of *kidnapping*; he knew nothing of the *adulteration of wine*; and yet he had been a *slave trader*, and is a *wine merchant*: This was a kind of mercantile logic which amounted, at least in Africa, to one simple fact; they never enquire how the slave has been obtained, when they purchase him. It was a grand maxim, Mr Wilberforce said, never to enquire into the right of a person who has slaves to sell. Profit was their object, and they cared not by what means that was obtained. Familiarised to such scenes, compassion and humanity were unknown to their feelings; and all was fair in their mind's eye, that tended to make money. Such deeds, so foul, so disgraceful to human nature, had too long been permitted. Whole countries were laid waste, villages burned, fields of corn de-

stroyed, and numbers of men, women, and children swept from off the face of the earth: For what? To feed the avarice of slave merchants. The inference he drew from all this, was, that the evidence of such men was not to be put in competition with that of unprejudiced persons, who had no interest to mislead them.

He next took notice, that the depredations were not confined to the African princes alone; these depredations were often made on the coast, by the slave captains themselves. In proof of this, he took notice, that while slave ships were on the coast, the natives were in perpetual alarm, and would not approach them without the greatest caution and diffidence; whereas, with respect to kings ships, they were, at all times, forward in giving every assistance in their power; came on board without the smallest timidity, from a consciousness that no improper advantages would ever be taken of them there. After many other observations, of a similar tendency, Mr Wilberforce concluded this branch of his subject, by remarking, that the mode of obtaining slaves, carried every where alarm and danger: Its path was marked with carnage, and it left nothing but monuments of ruin and desolation behind it; he therefore trusted the committee would be of one mind, and one voice, on this subject.

He next adverted to the circumstances of their passage to the West Indies. These unfortunate people were crowded together in ships, lying one upon another, in a small space, and that in a climate the most sultry. He wanted words to express, in a sufficient manner, his sense of the accumulated miseries, under which they there laboured. These sufferings are strongly marked by the phrase which is employed, when they throw themselves overboard; they are said to have "Escaped." To effectuate this purpose, every opportunity is sought, every artifice is studied: Time is watched, and invention racked, in order to obtain death, the last refuge of misery. The slave who is so happy as to succeed in his purpose, exults in the agonies of death, smiles amidst the convulsions of struggling nature, and holds up, with desperate effort, his expiring arms, to witness the transport of escape from misery, and

the triumph which he has obtained, over the avarice and cruelty of his persecutors. He then painted, with great force of colouring, the miserable state, in which they were put, by being so close packed up in a sultry and contagious atmosphere; in a climate to which they were unaccustomed, and in a situation, where they had neither room to lie, nor stir, which drove them to such a state of despair.

When they are so carefully watched, as to prevent them from *escaping* over board, he said, they still attempted to effectuate that escape, by the only other means that was in their power, that of refusing to take any sustenance; and thus starving themselves to death. But here again, ingenuity was exerted, to prevent them from thus obtaining rest. He mentioned a gentleman who denied that he had ever held a hot coal to a slave's mouth, to compel him to eat; but, by so doing, he forgot the maxim,

Qui facit per alienum, facit per se :

For when he was asked, whether he had ever held a burning coal, and a yam, to a slave's mouth, and compelled him to eat; his answer was, "I did not; and I defy any person to prove that I did." Did you ever order any other person to do it? "That is another matter. I was told, when I was sick in my cabin, that one of the slaves was sulky, and would neither eat, drink, nor speak. I desired the person to go and enquire the reason of his silence. He still, however, remained silent, and I ordered the chief mate, and surgeon, to carry him a yam and a red hot coal, and to let him take his choice. He took the yam." This was eating by *duree*, indeed, if any thing was, and the red hot coal overcame him.

The Situation of the Negroes on their own Coast.

Mr Wilberforce represented the situation of negroes in Africa, as being very different from that which has been held out to the public by dealers in slaves. They lived in their own country, he said, in a peaceable and happy manner: Even those who were in the situation of slaves, were mere vassals, and not liable to be sold, or even pu-

nished. They gave us an idea of the patriarchal ages; for they sat down to eat and drink with their mailers. These people lived in comfort and happiness, and were treated with mildness by their masters, before the Europeans sunk them into all the wretchedness and distress that he had described. They were tenacious of their liberty, as we are; and no man was punished, by being made a slave, unless he was tried and condemned by his own clan; which clan, from its constitution, made such a trial, a trial by his peers. Under what pretences can we make inroads upon these people; destroy their peace; traffic away whole tribes; snatch the father from his family, the mother from her infants, or the children from their parents?—There is an all-wise Being, at whose tribunal alone, that point can be cleared up.

Safety of the West India Islands.

Mr Wilberforce observed, that an opinion prevailed, that the slave trade was necessary for the safety of the West India islands; but if he should succeed in proving that the abolition of the slave trade, instead of being pernicious, would be highly useful, he should think all would be of one mind, and this, he hoped he should be able to do.

He here entered at large into the argument, whether the negro population in the West India islands, could be kept up without any importation of slaves from Africa, and showed, from a variety of considerations, that it might not only be kept up, but that under proper management, they might even increase. He showed, that they actually do increase at present, where they are properly treated. He also enumerated, at considerable length, the circumstances that tend to retard the increase of negroes in the West Indies. The absence of the owners, and the severity of young and wrong-headed overseers; the scanty allowance of food; the quantity of labour exacted, which sometimes exceeded the strength of the negroes; the neglect to their morals, and the general inattention that prevailed in the West Indies to the circumstance of breeding negroes, were among the principal causes that had hitherto retarded the population.

He next adverted to the evidence that had been given in favours of the continuation of the slave trade, and showed that many of the witnesses had given unqualified general assertions, that were contradicted by facts they should have known, but clearly overlooked. A governor of one of the West India islands had been asked, if a white man was liable to suffer death if he killed a negro slave? which he, without hesitation, answered, with certainty; yes: yet it was certain, that at the time he was governor, the only punishment was a fine of L. 150 currency, for that crime; and in some of the other islands, only one tenth of that sum was exacted. Other of the witnesses, whose evidence took in a space of thirty or forty years, had asserted, that the situation of the negroes, had always been as good as it possibly could be; yet they had, on other occasions, owned, that their situation had been greatly meliorated of late. Others contended that the situation of negroes in the islands was so favourable, that they did not so much as desire to have freedom; that they could enjoy a *peculium* of their own, and might, if they pleased, provide for old age. Yet it was universally allowed, that whenever a negro could acquire any money, he lost sight of every other object, but that of procuring his own freedom, or that of some other person whom he more valued. The old and infirm thus laid out their last shilling to procure a freedom, of which their infirmities prevented them from being able to avail themselves, and by this means they were reduced to want. A father sometimes gave his all to purchase the freedom of his son, thus voluntarily resigning all prospect of enjoyment, for his few remaining days, that his descendant might have a more lasting tenure of the blessings of liberty. Were these proofs of their being contented with their lot?

He next took notice of the general decrease in the proportional importation of slaves, that had taken place as their situation had been meliorated in the West Indies. All parties agreed, that they had been more mildly treated of late years, than at former periods; and that this change had gradually taken place, and the proportional importation had decreased accordingly. In Jamaica, from the year 1698 to 1732, the general decrease was estimated,

from the number imported, to have been, during that period, at the rate $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. From 1730 to 1755 the decrease was lessened to $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. From 1755 to 1768 it had been reduced to $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. And during the last twenty years, it has not exceeded one per cent. Mr Wilberforce went farther, and said, that since 1781 or 1782, the negroes in Jamaica were actually on the increase; and that the decrease only took place among those who were newly imported.

He next mentioned particular instances of a rapid increase. One gentleman who began with 200 slaves, found them, without any fresh purchases, at the end of thirty years, to be 500. A negro ship was stranded at St Vincent; and though they had to keep up a continual war with the natives, these were found, in a few years, to amount to 3000. He denied that even the *maroons* in Jamaica were decreasing. In 1749 they were numbered, and found to contain 150 men able to bear arms. They have now 300 men actually in arms.

He next showed, from a variety of facts, that this trade was highly prejudicial to the British navy. Out of 12,000 seamen employed in this trade, 2000 die annually: Whereas, in the West India trade, and in the fleet in the West Indies, consisting of 7000 men, not above 118 annually die.

After many other observations, tending to show that the general trade of the nation would be benefited instead of being hurt; and that the individuals who are at present engaged in it, could easily find other branches of trade, in which they could engage with a greater certainty of profit; he of course inferred that it was for the interest of all parties concerned, that this trade should be annihilated. He concluded this long and animated speech with moving, "That the chairman be directed to move for leave to bring in a bill, to prevent the farther importation of African negroes into the British colonies and plantations."

[The remainder of this debate in a future number.]

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THE BEE,

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

WEDNESDAY, December 7, 1791.

Historical Disquisitions on the British Constitution.

[Continued from page 72.]

I now proceed to take notice of some other obvious defects in our constitution that were discovered and corrected since the records of parliament have been so kept as to preserve some memorials of them.

Knights of Shires and Burgeffes.

The general summons for all the tenants in chief to attend parliament, as mentioned in the *Magna Charta* of King John, not being enforced by any penalty, had, in all probability, been disregarded before the days of Henry III. so that the whole power of parliament would centre in the archbishops, bishops, abbots, earls, and greater barons. From this consideration, Simon de Montfort, who had become very obnoxious to these great feudatories, and dreading their power, with a view to counterbalance that, did, in the year 1264

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order the sheriffs to cause two knights to be chosen from each shire, and two burgesses from each borough, to be returned to parliament.

This practice, like many others that have since prevailed, seems not to have been received as a popular measure, nor the distant consequences of it to have been then foreseen; for it was discontinued for twenty-six years, and when Edward the first did, afterwards, adopt the same measure, probably from views similar in kind to those of Montfort, so backward were the deputies in their attendance, that it was found necessary not only to order the constituents to pay their expences while attending parliament, but even also to require each deputy to enter into a recognizance with two sureties, under a penalty, that they would attend when so summoned. Anno 1290, Edward the first ordered, for the first time, two knights to be sent from each county (*a*). "The same order is repeated, anno 1694 (*b*); but it was not till the year 1295, that burgesses were ordered, by him, to be sent from the cities (*c*).

Origin of the House of Commons.

From this time, for about forty years, this mixed body, consisting of the dignified and inferior clergy, the nobles, and the representatives of counties and of cities, sat as one body. But, in the year 1332, the bishops, with the proctors of the clergy, probably from the contempt they entertained for the knights and burgesses, withdrew by themselves, the nobles by themselves, and the representatives of the commons by themselves (*d*). Here then is the first embryo of the house of commons; but how much unlike to the respectable assembly which now bears that name! Instead of claiming a right to judge of every particular respecting government, they, for many years, declined to

(*) Brady Bur. p. 26. (b) *ib.* p. 29. (c) *ib.* p. 35. (d) Parl. Hist. vol. 1st p. 214.

Dec. 7,

give any opinion on this subject, as too high for them to know;" and when pressed to give their opinion as to the propriety of a war in the year 1348, they say "they are not able to advise any thing concerning the war, and desire that the king will be advised by his nobles and council, and what should be determined by them; they would consent to and confirm (e)."

Again, in the year 1373, a committee of the commons was sent, in the name of the rest, requesting, "that they might have some bishops, earls, and barons to assist them in their deliberations (f)," which was granted. Anno 1377, they again pray the king, that, "from the weakness of their abilities, to advise the best, he would be pleased to let certain prelates and lords be joined with them on such weighty affairs (g)," which was also granted. The commons renewed the same petition next year, but the Lords would not assent to it (h). The commons, however, still diffident of their own abilities, renewed their petition again in the year 1383 (i), which was once more granted to them. Even as far down as the year 1394, the king having charged the commons to give their advice as to the war, the commons declared "that they considered these points were too high for them to meddle with, and therefore they durst not treat of them, nor give any advice (j)." Such was the house of commons at its origin, and such, it may be expected, will every assembly, of the same sort be, at its origin. Men do not, for ordinary, pass at once from ideas of servility to those of a well-regulated freedom. It is but by degrees that changes on the state of the human mind are usually effected.

Privileges of the Commons.

The commons being now obliged to assemble by themselves, began, by very slow degrees, to model their

(e) Parl. Hist. vol. 1st p. 268. (f) *ib.* p. 318. (g) *ib.* p. 335. (h) *ib.* p. 353. (i) *ib.* p. 373. (j) *ib.* p. 453.

meetings into a regular form. It was not till the first of Richard II. anno 1397, upwards of forty years after they had formed a distinct deliberative body, that they elected *Sir Peter de la Mare*, knight of the shire for Hertfordshire, as president of their body, under the name of *Speaker*; an office which has been ever since esteemed of the greatest dignity. But so little were those privileges of the house known, which are now justly deemed of the very highest importance, that the same Peter de la Mare, was, during the former reign, at the suit of Alice Piers, or Pierce, the king's mistress, condemned to perpetual imprisonment, for speaking boldly against her in parliament; from which sentence he was freed only at the accession of the present king (k); and in the year 1397, *Thomas Hanev*, clerk, a member of parliament, was condemned to die for having moved, in the house, a bill for avoiding the extravagant expences of the king's household, and to forbid bishops and ladies, who had no business there, from frequenting the court (l); nor was this severe sentence mitigated, but at the earnest and humble intercession of the prelates, "who besought the custody of his body, *not as a right belonging to them, but of his majesty's special grace and favour*," which was at last granted to them. Members of the house of commons were, therefore, totally debarred from liberty of speech, long after they constituted a distinct body in the legislature*.

(k) Speed, p. 588. (l) Parl. Hist. vol 1. p. 48.

* Every one knows with what a high hand even Elizabeth checked freedom of speech in parliament, though she had the address not to provoke a strong opposition to her high prerogative claims by well-timed acts of concession.

Mode of granting Supplies.

If it was long before the commons attained the valuable privilege of liberty of speech, it was longer still before they claimed the exclusive privilege of bringing forward money bills. It has been already made appear, that till after the year 1298, all grants of money were, entirely, by the prelates and the peers, without the smallest participation of the commons. Thus, for the payment of the ransom of Richard I. for liberty of tournaments, every earl gave 20 merks, every baron 10 merks, every landed knight 4 merks, and every knight of fortune 4 merks^(m). So far were the commons from being considered, on these occasions, at an early period, as capable of granting or withholding supplies, that they seem to have been subjected to the exactions of the great lords, at the pleasure of the crown. Thus, anno 1224, the barons gave to the king two shillings for every plough land; and the king, in return, granted the barons, two merks sterling of every knight's fee, *to be levied of their tenants* ⁽ⁿ⁾. In every case, before the commons were summoned to parliament, all grants were universally given by the clergy and the nobles; and even long after the commons were summoned to parliament the grants were made in name of the nobles. Thus, 1323 in the 16th of Edward II. when that unhappy prince demanded a pecuniary aid in parliament from the *clergy* and the *laity*, to discharge the ransom of John earl of Richmond, who had been taken prisoner by the Scots at the battle of Byland in Yorkshire, this proposal was refused by the *barons*, for this reason, that no such tax ought to be raised but for the ransom of the king, queen, or their eldest son ^(o). After this time, grants were, for many years, usually given by the *prelates, barons, knights, and burghers*, each separately for themselves. Thus, anno 1332,

(m) Parl. Hist. v. 1. p. 18. (n) *ib.* p. 24. (o) *ib.* p. 178.

the *prelates, lords, and knights of shires* granted a fifteenth of all their personal estates, and the *cities and boroughs* a tenth (*p*); and anno 1334, the *lords and knights of shires* grant a fifteenth, the *prelates* a tenth, and the *burgesses* the same (*q*) anno 1336, the *nobility* and *gentry* grant a twentieth, the *citizens* and *burgesses* a tenth, and the *clergy* a sixth (*r*). In the year 1339, the *nobility* gave every tenth sheep, fleece, and lamb of their demesne, the *commons* declared themselves willing to grant an aid, but desired time to advise with their constituents, which was allowed, and they afterwards granted 30,000 sacks of wool (*s*).

Hitherto the grants of each order of the people are always kept secret, according to the ancient custom; but in the next parliament, 1340, we find a small variation in the stile. The *lords and commons* grant the king, &c. (*t*). Anno 1344, the *clergy* granted a triennial tenth, the *commons* granted the king two fifteenths of the commonalty of the land, and two tenths of the *cities and boroughs*. Soon after the *commons* gave another fifteenth. The *lay lords* granted to pass over seas, and adventure themselves with the king, and are therefore not found upon the roll as taxed (*u*). Anno 1347, the *commons* granted the king an aid of two fifteenths, and this is the first instance of the commons in parliament granting an aid without mention of the nobles (*x*). The reason is obvious, the nobles were then personally with the king, and granting their aid in this way. To this accidental circumstance do we probably owe the origin of the idea that all the supplies are given in Britain by the commons. Anno 1352, a grant in parliament is given of three-tenths and three-fifteenths, by the lords and commons (*y*).

As far down as the year 1383 the king addressed himself in a particular manner to the lords, when de-

(*p*) Parl. Hist. v. 1. p. 213. (*q*) *ib.* p. 421. (*r*) *ib.* p. 223. (*s*) *ib.* p. 230. (*t*) *ib.* p. 239. (*u*) *ib.* p. 258. (*x*) *ib.* p. 263. (*y*) *ib.* p. 277.

manding a supply; and hereupon the lords and commons granted &c (z). Anno 1380, the commons desire the lords to name the tax, which they accordingly do, and the commons agree to it (a). This was the famous capitation tax that occasioned the rebellion of *Wat Tyler*. The *prelates*, at this time, refused to be taxed in parliament, and said they would only tax themselves in convocation, "as had been usual heretofore"—1383. Still the grant runs, *lords and commons* (b).

The first notice, that I have found, of a grant in parliament, by the *commons*, nearly in the form now used, was in the first parliament of Henry IV. anno 1398 (c). The words are, "The *commons*, with the assent of the *bishops* and *lords*, grant, &c. and this form gradually began to prevail more and more from that time forward till the present day.

Assembling of Parliament, &c.

One other particular which was long unsettled, as might naturally be expected, was the procedure necessary to be observed in convoking a parliament. In the infancy of a society it could not be foreseen that many abuses could originate from this source, and therefore no steps would be taken to guard against it. The king would be expected to send such a summons to all as should be generally understood, and nothing more would be required. But in process of time, when the people became numerous, and much dispersed, the king took occasion to omit to summon such as he thought might prove adverse to his wishes, or to call on others, with rigour to attend, who wished to be excused, so that it is not to be doubted, but grievous abuses and oppressions were practised under this guise. So intolerable had these abuses grown before the time of king John, that it was judged of sufficient impor-

(z) *Parl. Hist.* v. 1. p. 378. (a) *ib.* p. 360. (b) *ib.* p. 383.

(c) *ib.* v. 2. p. 38.

tance to have an article provided in the Magna Charta to guard against this evil.

Accordingly the barons obliged John to come under the following engagements. The words translated from the original French are these. "And as for coming to the common council of this kingdom, and for assenting aids, except it be for our ransom, for making our eldest son a knight, or for marrying our eldest daughter once, we will cause to be summoned the *Archbishops, Bishops, Abbots, Earls, and the greater Barons*, each in particular by ourselves. And moreover, we will cause to be summoned by our sheriffs and bailiffs, *all that hold of us in chief*, at a certain day, 40 days after at least, and at a certain place; and in our letters we will express the cause of the summons*." In the 39th parliament of Hen. III. 1255, this abuse had been felt, for the Lords refused to grant any supplies, because "all had not been summoned according to the tenure of their charter (*d*)". This, however, did not produce the desired effect; for sometimes more and sometimes fewer of one particular order were called upon or omitted. 1265 only 11 Bishops, 5 Earls and 18 Barons were summoned to parliament, and 64 abbots, 37 priors and 5 deans (*e*); and in 1297 a parliament was summoned, in which the clergy were entirely omitted (*f*). After the representatives for counties and boroughs began to be chosen, the sheriffs were sometimes ordered to send one, sometimes two or three, or even four for each county; and the number of cities were more or less as the king inclined.

(*d*) Parl. Hist. vol. 1. p. 57. (*e*) Dugdale, p. 1.

(*f*) Parl. Hist. vol. 1. p. 105.

* It is plain, from the above quotation, that in the time of John, no idea had as yet begun to be adopted of *what* we now call *representation*; as all the lesser *tenants in chief* are to be summoned indiscriminately.

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ON THE BRITISH CONSTITUTION.

109

Frequently also, the members were nominated by the crown. Upon the same principle, Richard the second called to the house of peers the judges and privy counsellors, who had not till then been admitted into that house. He also claimed the privilege of calling to the house of peers by name, such knights as he judged proper, although they did not hold their lands of the crown by barony (g). Many other irregularities, of the same sort, occur in reading every page of the parliamentary history, of this country.

Thus, anno 1352, 26 Edw. III. only one representative for each city and burgh was summoned to the parliament, which met at Westminster; and only one knight from each county was summoned to that which met the year after, at the same place, though two representatives for each city and borough were called to this last (h): and in 1371 the king summoned a certain number of prelates and lords, together with *one half* of the knights and citizens and burgesses who had attended the last parliament, *all named by himself*, to meet at Winchester, June 8th; which assembly acted as a parliament (i). Anno 1296, the sheriffs are ordered to return *two* or *three* knights from each county, but no citizens or burgesses. Accordingly Suffolk, Cambridge, Norfolk, Huntingdon, and Cumberland, returned each three knights, and all the rest two (k). Again, anno 1295, the king directs letters to all his sheriffs to choose *two* knights from each county. *Teste Regi apud monast. : 8 die Octobris*; and next day he directs other writs to choose two more knights for each county (l). Anno 1372, dubbed knights, and none other, are ordered to be returned, and burgesses who had the greatest skill in shipping and merchandising (m). Anno 1282, two representatives are ordered to

(g) Seld. Tit. hon. p. 591. (h) Brady Int. p. 158. 160.

(i) Brady v. 2. p. 161. (k) Brady Bar. p. 26. (l) *ib.* p. 29.

(m) Parl. Hist. v. 1. p. 312.

be summoned from each county; and two burgesses from each town; the towns being then only twenty-one in number, that were ordered to make returns (*n*). Anno 1301, the king orders the same persons to be returned, as had attended the last parliament (*o*). Anno 1362, a parliament was holden at Westminster, in which none were permitted to appear by *proxy*, and where consequently there could be no representatives (*p*).^{*} Anno 1306, a parliament is summoned for giving an aid, and for knighting the king's son. The bishops and abbots are summoned, *nomina tim*, to come by themselves *vel procuratores vel attornatos vestras*: the knights, citizens, and burgesses ordered to be summoned by the sheriff, two knights for each county, two citizens for each city, and one or two burgesses for each burrough, as they are large or small (*q*). He is ordered also to send the archbishops, bishops, priors, and other religious in his county to parliament.

From these and other documents, it appears that no fixed rule for summoning parliaments had been adopted in the fourteenth century. In some of the parliaments of this reign [Ed. 1.] Mr Brady, with justice remarks (*r*), the smaller barons were represented in each county, some by two, some by three, and some by four commissioners; and the representatives of cities and boroughs was still more imperfect. We even meet with one parliament, in this reign, in which

(*n*) Parl. Hist. p. 68. (*o*) *ib.* p. 114. (*p*) Speed p. 584.
(*q*) Rymer v. 2. (*r*) Intr. p. 151.

* This was very near a hundred years after Simon de Montfort had first ordered burgesses and knights to be chosen as representatives; so that it seems, even thus long, to have been looked upon as an indulgence of the crown, which they might grant or withhold at pleasure.

where was not so much as one clergyman, and with another, in which, not only the archbishops, bishops, abbots and priors, but even the archdeacons, with a representative of every chapter, and two representatives of the inferior clergy, in every diocese, were called(*s*): and Henry the historian, with great truth, remarks that the two first Edwards seem to have modelled the parliament, as best suited their views, sometimes one party being omitted, and sometimes another (*t*). And that the number of burroughs and towns was altogether unfixed in the time of Edward the third(*u*). That these things were so will not surprise any person who seriously reflects on the effects of gradual changes, which the progressive state of society produce, and the uncertainty of ideas that must, for some time, prevail before measures can be adopted to suit the circumstances of the times. It is now considered as a great privilege for a place to be entitled to send representatives to parliament; but at the period here under review, this was viewed rather as a vexatious duty. Men *now* solicit to be members of parliament, *then*, they were so backward, in the discharge of this duty, that it was found necessary to enact 14 Ed. 1. that each representative should find three sureties that he should attend parliament (*x*). At the same time the counties and cities were bound to pay the expences of their representatives in parliament. When this duty was therefore performed with so much reluctance it is no wonder if the king was allowed, without challenge, to omit summoning such as he might find suited his purpose to keep away from the national assembly.

To be continued.

(*s*) Brady Intro. p. 155. (*t*) v. 4. p. 288. (*u*) *ib.*

(*x*) Brady Intro. p. 153.

*Excerpts from the History of the Conquest of Spain, by
Abulcacin Abentarique.*

[Continued from p. 171.]

Description of Spain.

CHAP. V.

Of the Climate, and the People in Spain.

OUR philosophical author thus proceeds. "It is admitted both by antient and modern philosophers, that the clear sky, pure air, and fine delicate water contribute much, in certain provinces of the world, to prolong the life of the inhabitants, and render their genius more acute than it otherwise would have been. This is fully verified in Spain; for although it is distant from the equinoctial, about 40 degrees, it neither experiences heat nor cold to an excessive degree, but always enjoys a moderate temperature. Its air is clear, and extremely free from fogs, and poisonous vapours of all sorts. The principal cause of this peculiarity of climate in Spain, is, that it contains so many sierras and ridges of mountains, which divide its chief provinces from each other, and that the highest of these all lie towards the eastward, and intercept the wind when it blows from that quarter; for it is this east wind, when it chances to blow with uncommon force, which is chiefly pernicious to Spain, withering the trees and fruits, as if they had been scorched by fire. But, for ordinary, and naturally, these sierras, and mountains, moderate the current of this air, and mitigate its baneful influence, rendering it cool and salutary in comparison of what it otherwise would be, for these sierras are commonly cool, and in part covered with snow, and their inhabitants are endowed with exquisite genius, and enjoy good

health to an extreme old age. Of this fact I can have no doubt, as I myself have seen, in this kingdom, many men and women who had attained the age of a hundred and fifteen or twenty years, and who, at that age were strong and hale, and enjoyed their mental faculties in perfection. Although they are but of ordinary stature, they have great strength of body; and it is altogether common to live till eighty or ninety years firm in body, and in perfect health. The archbishop of *Orpas* acknowledged to me that he was full eighty years of age; and I saw him, at that time, upon a spirited horse of great beauty, fleetness, and strength, skirmish with a dart, and shield with such dexterity, valour and agility, as caused admiration to all who beheld him, nor could any of our Arabians trained the most completely in that exercise, obtain any advantage over him in this particular.

"The wind which most commonly prevails in Spain, is the west wind, which, in their language, is called *Favonio* when it blows briskly; and when it is gentle, they call it *Zefiro*. It is temperate and pure, and healthful; it also brings with it frequent showers, which produces fertility to the fields, and enriches the plains. What is here said respects the winter and spring seasons only; for during the summer and autumn this wind is generally moderate, purifying the air in such a manner that the sky appears of the most beautiful azure colour.

"The south wind, which the Christians of this country call *Austro*, brings rain, though they praise it not so much as the west wind: it alters the humours of the human body, and causes some infirmities, though neither are these of much consequence; and the good it occasions by the rain it produces overbalances its ill effects. The north wind, which is called in their language *Gierzo*, is cold, because it passes over cold regions, dispels the clouds by its cold, and when it blows it causes a serene air, and is deemed healthful; although

among very old persons it sometimes occasions a retention of urine. There are no contagious diseases in this kingdom of Spain, nor pestilence, as in other countries of the world; but its inhabitants enjoy a good state of health; and the infirmities to which they are subjected are few, and of short continuance, soon terminating, either in death or established health; but those who are moderate in eating and drinking, live sound to the age of decrepitude, and die naturally without pain. So much as to this particular.

CHAP. VI.

Of the Abundance of Corn, Wine, and Oil, in Spain.

"So fertile is the kingdom of Spain, that for every measure of corn sown it yields fifty or sixty measures; and this is so common, that it scarcely ever falls short of it; unless in some unfavourable seasons, when the crops fail for want of rain, which but seldom happens. They cultivate wheat of five different sorts, which are called in their language, *Patianchuelo*, *Candeal*, *Bermujuelo*, *Arisnegro*, *Modoro* *. They also rear barley, rye, [*Escano* †,] and oats, and millet; all in such abundance that the people never experience a scarcity:—and I think they might rear much more grain than they need, and could supply the neighbouring countries with it, if in place of vines they cultivated corn; and I am firmly persuaded that they could rear double the quantity of grain they do at present. But they make so much wine, that if the cellars below ground were em-

* Of these kinds of wheat I declare myself entirely ignorant; but this enumeration, connected with what follows, clearly shows, that at this period, the Spaniards had made great advances in civilization, at the time that the people in Germany, France, and Britain, were in a state of abject ignorance.

† Here again I profess my ignorance, and am not certain if rye be meant by *Escano*,

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tied, they could make a river of that liquor, which would run continually. Wine constitutes a great part of the sustenance of the people; and they are so much accustomed to drink it, that they never want it for a single day. This is only to be understood of the married men†; for married women and maidens do not drink of it, nor will they ever consent so to do unless in extreme cases of sickness. Those who drink wine when in health are accounted infamous, and shunned, as disorderly persons. It is also a custom among them that young men before marriage do not drink wine; they only remain with their parents to eat, but do not accustom themselves to drink wine till after they have entered into the married state. The obedience and respect that children shew to their parents is peculiarly deserving of notice; and the great love and tenderness with which they serve them, even till an advanced age, is very pleasing to remark, though this is not enforced by any law or ordinance of the king.

“ There is also produced in this kingdom great quantities of oil, from olives, which is so fine as to be preferred to the oil of any other kingdom in the world, being limpid as rose water, of a fine taste and delicate flavour, especially in Andalusia, a province of Iberia; for besides raising it in great abundance, those who prepare it there, perform the operation of pressing it out in the most perfect manner. There is a district on the borders of the Western Ocean where they have immense numbers of the trees which give that liquor, which are called in their language *Olivares*, both on the sierras and the plains, for the space of ten or twelve miles. These trees are cultivated with great care, by being laboured between them, where, in passing through the plantations, the fruit appears most beautiful, and excites a sentiment of gratitude to the supreme God for

† It must be recollected that the writer was a Mahometan, to whom wine is forbidden.

all his favours. They likewise prepare the olives for food and deserts, green, and black, and mixed in a variety of manners; and in this, and other respects, the rules of eating and drinking, and their domestic economy, the people discover great attention and neatness.

"They also, in this kingdom, extract much oil from lintseed, which they do not make any use of themselves, but send abroad to foreign parts, by way of merchandise, which brings to them a great deal of money.— They also extract oil from *Sesamum*, almonds, poppys, and other seeds, employing these oils as medicines in the composition of various preparations, because in some parts of this kingdom they gather these seeds in great abundance; for which praises are due to the sovereign Lord, whose name is blessed for ever. Amen *."

CHAP. VII.

Of the different Domestic Animals reared in this Kingdom, and other Articles of Merchandise.

"THERE are reared in Spain great numbers of sheep, yielding fine wool; and these abound so much, that the inhabitants are never in want of flesh for their sustenance. They likewise make of the wool of these sheep much fine cloth of all colours†. They also rear there a great many goats, the flesh of which is very tender and sweet to eat. I can affirm that it is as good

* From all that occurs in this chapter the surprising difference of civilization and knowledge of useful arts that must have prevailed in Spain, when compared with that of France under Charlemagne, and Britain under Alfred, must be very apparent. How much farther were they then advanced in useful arts than they even are at the present moment!

† I had lately occasion to quote this passage as a proof that fine wool was at a very early period produced in Spain; and the woollen manufacture was there also evidently in a very flourishing state.

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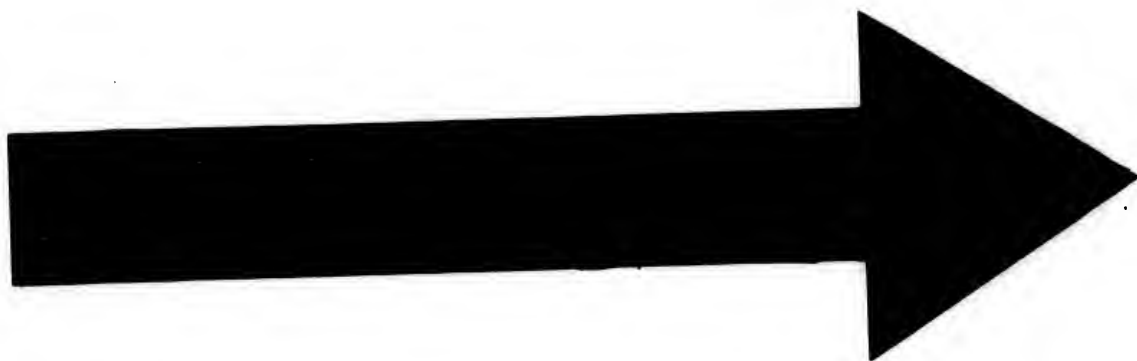
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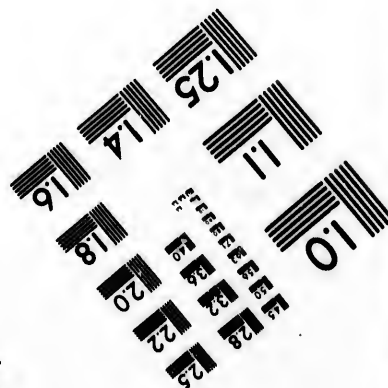
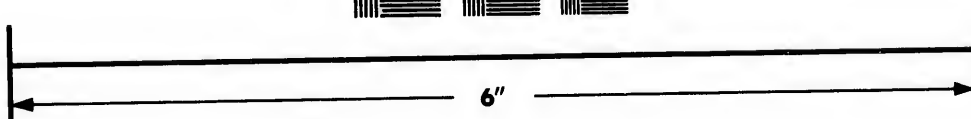
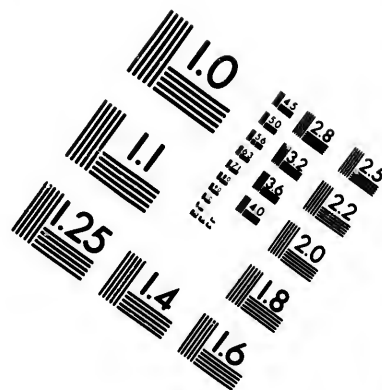
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as the mutton of Africa; and the mutton of this country of Spain is as nourishing and tender as the pullets of Alexandria. They likewise rear here a great many cattle, as well on the mountains as on the level plains, and tame pigs, whose flesh is much esteemed as food, and constitutes a considerable part of their ordinary living. They make use of cattle for labouring the ground with the plough, and sowing the seed. Camels or dromedaries they have none; and on enquiring at the inhabitants why they did not use them, as in Africa and Asia, they said, that although they had often attempted to rear them, having obtained them from Africa from time to time for that purpose; yet they always died; from whence I conclude that their climate is unfavourable for these creatures. In the province of Iberia, called Vandalusia, they breed many fine horses, extremely beautiful, and spirited for war; and at present they are much esteemed by the Moors. In the kingdom of Castile they also breed a great number of large mules, of great strength and beauty; and also a smaller sort, which are used all over the kingdom as beasts of burden, for drawing carriages and other works*. Generally, through the whole of the kingdom they have an infinite number of bee-hives, from which they gather much honey and wax, which is of a finer quality than those of Africa and Arabia. They likewise rear much flax, of which they make fine linen,—and hemp. The silk of this kingdom is very good, but they value it not; and therefore they produce but little of it. Of fruits and legumes they have great abundance, except dates, of which they have none in this kingdom; for although there be

* It is impossible not to remark, in reading this account, how much the ancient and present state of Spain correspond. The same animals are now reared exactly as in former times. This description might serve for the year 1789.

some palm trees on the coast, they are barren, and produce no fruit worth mentioning.

"They have great variety of medecinal herbs, as their learned authors write, except aromatics, which are brought from India by sea, for their use.

"In this kingdom there are many mines of silver and other metals, except gold; nor have I seen any of it in this conquest, that is of any value, though some christians have informed me, that in the kingdom of Don Pelayo, towards the western coast, in a district rough and rocky, called, by its proper name, *Finiserra*, they gather of its ore in great quantities, and that at the time this kingdom was subjected to the Romans, they obtained great treasures from these mines.

"There are no pearls in this kingdom, nor precious stones of value; for, although they have some pearls, they are very tender, and have neither that hardness nor fineness which alone constitutes their value and estimation.

"Leaving the land and the water, and returning to the air, and the winged fowls. There comes to winter in this kingdom, of thrushes and other lesser birds such immense quantities as to excite astonishment, and contribute not a little to the support of the inhabitants.

"No wild beasts, nor carnivorous animals, destructive of man, are found in this country; and also it is exceedingly well peopled, without having any part of it uninhabited worthy of consideration; only their flocks of sheep sometimes sustain damage from the wolves which shelter themselves in the mountains.

"Let this suffice for the description of the kingdom of Spain, seeing it is time to continue the history, which is the principal object of our design."

Here ends our author's description of Spain; in some future number, if I find these extracts are well relished, farther particulars respecting the government and domestic œconomy of the Moors shall be communicated to the readers of this work.

To the Editor of the Bee.

SIR,

As I make it a rule, every Sunday, to read such books as may call my meditations to piety and virtue, and lead me to examine my past conduct, and to amend it as much as possible for the future, by the due government of my passions, and the performance of such duties as may most conduce to the welfare of society, I happened lately to dip into the Bee, and to cast my eye on the letter of Senex vol. II. p. 133, which I had not before considered with attention.—He is a respectable and valuable correspondent, and his communications are beautiful, and interesting. I have not observed, of a long time, his hand, or signature, in the Bee.

Perhaps he is gone to that place “where the wicked cease from troubling, and the weary are at rest.” If, however, he is alive, this little letter of mine may give him pleasure, and if he be dead it may stand for his elegy.

A friend, when dead, is but remov'd from sight,
Hid in the lustre of eternal light.
Oft with the mind, he wonted converse keeps,
In the lone walk, or while the body sleeps
Lets in a wand'ring ray, and all elate,
Wings and attracts her to another state.

Thomson's unprinted elegy on Aikman.

The most interesting moral spectacle in the world is a virtuous, warm hearted, chearful, contented old man, “who renews his age by the recollection of what is past, and forgets his infirmities and misfortunes by participating in the innocent joys of society.” Who fortifies his religion and philosophy by the entrenchments of science, literature, and taste; and looking

from "nature up to nature's God, anticipates the joys of that state for which his life and his continual employments are preparatory !

" This man I hail, the subject of my lays,
Good Senex, happy in a length of days !
Thrice five Olympiads has the good man seen;
His youth was joyous, and his age serene :
No deed that recollection shun'd to name
Could tinge his forehead with the blush of shame.
No day of irksome memory unblest,
He wish'd to banish from his tranquil breast :
Ev'n Lethe's stream, he eyed without its fears,
As but the closing of his peaceful years.
Happy old man ! long may these blessings last,
He doubly lives who can enjoy the past."

Martial.

I am Sir, your constant reader,

November 20th,
1791.

C. J.

OBSERVATIONS ON TITHES.

To the Editor of the Bee.

Sir,

THE precise time when tithes were first introduced into Britain we are unable to determine, but may be assured they are of great antiquity: Some authors contend, they were introduced along with christianity; but we have every reason to believe they are of a much older date. The ancient Britons, who are supposed coeval with the Brachmans of India, or the Magi of Persia, had probably this institution among them. We are led to this conjecture from the similarity of their religious doctrines, as well as the great power of their druids or priests over the king and people. No ceremonies were performed, no council could be held,

no magistrates chosen without their approbation; in short, the king appears rather to have been the creature or slave of the druids; and in all probability both were maintained from the same source. As the arts and sciences were very little cultivated among the Britons, the mechanic trades must have been in a low condition; government could expect no supply from these. The burden, therefore, must have fallen entirely upon the land; and this might be effected as well by tithes as any other.

It may be objected to these, that the Britons had very little intercourse with foreign nations, so could borrow nothing from them. It may be observed, that the ordeal, or fiery trial practised by the ancient Greeks, was also in practice among the Saxons, and continued in use, till abolished by Henry III. Their religion also bears internal marks of their knowledge of the eastern nations; for their priests inculcated the doctrine of the immortality and transmigration of the soul; that the world was incorruptible; that water had already prevailed over it; and, in the end, it would be disfigured by fire.

They no doubt, like other nations, had their peculiarities, such as a dance in memory of the *creation*; they perhaps might have one in memory of its destruction too; for Menippus the philosopher makes mention of a dance called the *conflagration of the world*, which is not to be found among the solemnities of the Greeks or Romans.

The knowledge of tithes might be communicated to them by the Jews, who I believe were in this island much earlier than history gives any account of. Many respectable historians maintain that the Jews were not known in England till the time of William the Conqueror, and that tithes took place soon after the knowledge of christianity. That the Jews were much earlier, is evident from a canon made in the eight cen-

tury, prohibiting all christians from partaking of their feasts; the latter is equally false.

From these observations I am much of opinion that tithes were in practice among the ancient Britons, and that their first institution had been for the benefit of the king and civil government, as well as the priests. Although we have no legal establishment of them which we can depend on, till A. D. 786, this is no argument for their not having existed before that time; nor does their present tenure prove, in any degree, that they were always disunited from the king and government, any more than, they always subsisted under their present form, which is not the case.

Banks of Queech,
Oct. 18, 1791.

J. R.

Loose Hints respecting Architecture in Edinburgh.

To the Editor of the Bee,

SIR,

YOUR observations on architecture have suggested some ideas on my perambulations through this place, which I now transmit to you.

I am perfectly convinced that pillars produce a poor effect, when stuck upon a wall, as you call it, in comparison of that which they have when detached from it. Example, compare the front of St. Andrew's church with that of Lord Dalhousie's house—the front of the Infirmary—or the Register-Office.

The D—e of F—y, wittily said, that the forwardness of the clergy, and the backwardness of the medical faculty had spoiled the finest street in Europe, alluding to the projection of the colonade of St. Andrew's church on St. George's street, and the recession of the Medical-hall. This certainly breaks the

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ARCHITECTURE IN EDINBURGH.

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uniformity, which some will think, is no blemish. It affords, at the same time, an opportunity of comparing the effect of a colonade placed in the two opposite circumstances. Which of them has the most striking effect? I think the projecting colonade by much the best placed. When seen in profile, it has a much happier effect than when seen in front.

This observation suggests another. The Assembly-hall, George's-street, is an ugly heavy mass, that is a blemish on that fine street. How easy would it be to make it a very striking and ornamental structure? You have only to add a stately colonade in front, projecting ten or twelve feet upon the street, so as to allow the foot passage to go under it; and to crown it at top with a stately spire, or elegant belfrey, somewhat in the stile of that on the east front of the intended university. The spire would prove a great ornament to the place, when viewed at a distance. The columns seen equally well in front or in profile, would confer much elegance and dignity to the street when near.

The east front of the new University, especially the gateway and its ornaments above, appear very beautiful in the view you have given of it. But you have taken care to present it in the most advantageous point of view. The pillars, in that point of view, and the ballustrade they support, appear equally elegant as if they had been detached considerably from the front of the building, but, when viewed in perspective, any where from one side, the effect, as they now stand, will be very poor indeed in comparison of what it would have been had the pillars projected eight or ten feet forward on the pavement. It would not, I presume, have cost above a hundred pounds additional expence to have given them this projection. I cannot help regretting that the ingenious architect did not think of doing it. Such a colonade would then have proved a bold object, that would have attracted the eye of every stranger on his entering this city from the southward.

PERAMBULATOR.

A Character.

" Her cherub smiles, her sparkling eyes
 " Confess their shining ancestor the sun !"

AMANDA is a divinity to her lovers, yet insensibles have gazed on her charms with impunity ! Her own sex admits her brilliancy of wit ; all are subdued by the magic of her conversation.

Had Amanda less sensibility, or was more general in her attentions ; by causing fewer exclusions and more appropriations, one half of the world would be captivated by the charms of her mind, and the other enslaved by the attractive graces of her person.

Remarkable Speech in Parliament of Sir Henry Vane, Junr.

" One would bear a little with Oliver Cromwell, though, contrary to his oath of fidelity to the Parliament, contrary to his duty to the public, contrary to the respect he owed that venerable body from whom he received his authority, he usurped the government. His merit was so extraordinary, that our judgments, our passions, might be blinded by it. He made his way to empire by the most illustrious actions. He had, under his command, an army that had made him conqueror, and a people that had made him their general : but as for Richard Cromwell, his son, Who is he ? What are his titles ? We have seen that he had a sword by his side, but, Did he ever draw it ? and, what is of much more importance in this case, Is he fit to get obedience from a mighty nation who could never make a footman obey him ? Yet this man we must recognize under the name of " Protector ;" a man without worth, without courage, and without conduct. For my part, Mr. Speaker, it shall never be said that I made such a man my master."

The Adieu and Recall.

Go, idle boy, I quit thy power ;
 Thy couch of many a thorn and flow'r,
 Thy twanging bow, thine arrow keen,
 Deceitful beauty's timid mien,
 The feign'd surprize, the roguish leer,
 The tender smile, the thrilling tear,
 Have no pang, no joy for me,
 So fare thee well, for I am free !
 Then flutter hence on wanton wing,
 Or lave thee in yon lucid spring,
 Or take thy bev'rage from the rose,
 Or on Louisa's breast repose ;
 I wish thee well for pleasures past,
 Yet, blest the hour ! I'm free at last.

But sure, methinks, the alter'd day
 Scatters around a mournful ray ;
 And chilling every zephyr blows,
 And every stream untuneful flows ;
 No rapture swells the linnet's voice,
 No more the vocal groves rejoice :
 And e'en thy song, sweet bird of Eve !
 With whom I lov'd so oft to grieve,
 Now scarce regarded meets my ear,
 Unanswer'd by a sigh or tear ;
 No more with devious step I choose
 To brush the mountains morning dews ;
 " To drink the spirit of the breeze,"
 Or wander midst o'er-arching trees ;
 Or woe, with undisturb'd delight,
 The hale cheek'd virgin of the night,
 That piercing thro' the leafy bow'r,
 Throws on the ground a silv'ry show'r.
 Alas ! is all this boasted ease,
 To lose each warm desire to please,
 No sweet solitudes to know
 For other's bliss, for other's woe,
 A frozen apathy to find,
 A sad vacuity of mind ?

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Henry Vane,

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O hasten back then, heavenly boy,
And with thine anguish bring thy joy!
Return with all thy torment here,
And let me hope, and doubt, and fear.
O rend my heart with every pain!
But let me, let me, love again.

DELLA CRUSCA.

Epitaph.*

Infra situs est

Qui

Venerem sine Lucina,
Lucinam sine Venere,
Coluit.

Mille post filios Reipublicæ datos

Heu! Heu!

Sine libbris decessit.
Bella inter intestina,

Manu forti,

Sed sine Marte,

Patriæ *Liberatoris* nomen adeptus;*Ob. Act. S. 48.*

Prospicite, virgines!

Respicite, matres!

Et

LUGETE!

* That the force of this *Jeu d'Esprit* may be fully perceived, let the reader be informed, that the person here alluded to was a celebrated *accoucheur*; that he was married for many years and had no children; and that it was generally believed he was a very faithful votary at the shrine of the Cyprian Goddess, to whom he willingly bowed the knee, under whatever form she appeared, whether she assumed the dress of a Princess, or, like the divine *Dulcinea del Toboso*, appeared in the guise of a healthy country wench, provided she was only young and handsome.

For the Bee.

Caledonia's Eclogue.

WHERE Scotia's mountains rear their Alpine heads,
 Above Daic more's impenetrable shades;
 Thence warping hoarsely from its native source,
 Thy stream, O Dee! sends forth its pleasing course.
 There by the rock, of other years the theme,
 The doleful Fonar sung his plaintive strain;
 Cold blew the gale, bleak rose the heath behind;
 Loose flow'd his robes, and wanton'd in the wind.

Thrice sigh'd the youth, sore wept the woeful man,
 Then bath'd the banks with tears, and thus began:

"Flow on, lov'd stream, go tell my lowland fair,

"For her I die, for her I still despair;

"Go tell Maria—Fonar is no more,—

"Dark his abode, and all his sorrows o'er.

"Oh! had it pleas'd the high Olympian host,

"To have sent some dire invasion on our coast,

"With dreadful clamour rais'd the din of arms,

"And spread dismay, and war, and dread alarms;

"Then had our mountains sons, as oft before,

"Repell'd the fierce invaders from our shore;

"Hence flush'd with success—done a warrior's part,

"I might have gain'd the cruel fair one's heart;

"Or all beset, beyond the power to save,

"Have found in battle a more glorious grave.

"My lot forbade,—yet when I'm lowly laid,

"Swift, babbling stream, go tell my lowland maid—

"Go tell Maria—Fonar is no more!

"Dark are his paths, and all his sorrows o'er."

Oft o'er these plains has gloomy Morven's race,

In other years, arous'd the joyful chase.

Then doubtless oft the feast of shells was rais'd,

And doubtless here, a thousand oaks have blaz'd;

Low on these hills has Fingal's bosky shield

Arous'd the dreadful meteors of the field;

Loud, and more loud, was heard the death-like sound,
 Then instant blaz'd a thousand spears around.
 But they are set, that once like meteors shone,
 Those mighty chiefs, and all their glory gone;
 They've set in night, and not a trace appears,
 Where sleeps the warlike shades of other years:
 And soon shall Fonar sleep—without his fame;
 Cropt down in youth, 'ere glory mark'd his name.
 Farewell, Maria, may heaven your steps still guard,
 And with a happier swain your love reward.
 On Dee's smooth banks let Fonar's grave be made,
 And when I'm number'd with the silent dead,
 'Twill please my shade to hear the murmuring stream
 Still running on, and this the seeming theme:

“Atas, Maria—Fonar is no more!”

“Dark is his house, and all his sorrows o'er.”

Thus sung the youth;—thus ended Fonar's lay,
 And o'er the heath he silent strode away.

FONAR.

Inverness, February 8. 1791.

Query—On the Mode of Tasting Food by Birds.

To the Editor of the Bee.

SIR,

I HAVE often wondered by what mode of organization birds were enabled to palate their food, and will be much obliged to any of your learned correspondents who can explain this to me. The linnet, the canary, and some other small birds, take the trouble of stripping the husk from the greatest part of the seeds they live upon; and, with regard to these, we might suppose it possible that they might taste their food, *more humana*, though even these swallow the seeds without breaking them. But what shall we say of the hen, the duck, the goose, and most other large birds, which swallow the seeds whole, covered with the husk? Most of these discover predilection for

the oat: that most effectually would cover its taste, were it so swallowed by man; yet still they eat it with a relish seemingly acute, as a hungry man would devour a joint of good roast beef. To say that this food is wholesome and pleasing to the constitution of the animal, is saying nothing; for in all our experience, animals are determined to pursue those measures that are necessary for the preservation of the individual, and the continuation of the species, not from a consideration of the ultimate end, but from the pleasure afforded by the steps necessary for attaining that end. Food is necessary for our subsistence, and we find a pleasure in eating that food, and a pain in abstaining from it. Hence we and other animals have a high relish for certain viands. Should these viands be covered with a close crust, such as the husk of oats, they might prove as wholesome and nutritive in the stomach, as if they were chewed, but not in the least pleasing to the taste; we would have as much pleasure in swallowing a pill containing arsenick, that would poison, as of roast beef that would nourish us. In this state, therefore, we would mark no preference of the one above the other. But fowls in this state discover a manifest preference to particular kinds of food. Hence it seems to be undeniable, that they must taste their food at the time they pick it up. But how they should do it, is the question I wish to have solved,—and I hope you will excuse this trouble from

A YOUNG OBSERVER.

N. B. I thank the *old observer* for his remarks on the earth worm; and will take it kind if he will explain the above, or any other particular respecting natural history, that his own superior knowledge and experience shall have enabled him to do; for I am but an admirer of nature, not yet sufficiently informed to be able to know even what is most worthy to be known in that field of speculation.

To the Editor of the Bee.

Queries respecting Scotch Manufactures.

As there are many manufactures, which were till of late carried on with success in only the English part of the Island, but are now flourishing in a superior degree in Scotland, particularly cottons, silks, cast iron, and glass; I take the liberty, through your channel, of requesting the favour of you, or some of your speculative correspondents in political subjects,

to investigate and point out the causes of that change; as also the effects produced on manufactures and agriculture in Scotland, by the great plenty of fuel, the general command of water, the want of established poor's rates—the smallness of church burdens, and the respectability of the officiating clergy, which are peculiar to this end of the kingdom.

I doubt not that a well executed paper on these subjects would do honour to the author, and it would be a great treat to many, particularly to your reader,

Leith, November 1791.

A. B. C.

To the Editor of the Bee.

MR. EDITOR,

THE following story, which I translate in all the detail of the French original, was seriously believed by many hundreds of people at Paris. If you think it can any how contribute to the entertainment of your readers, it is most heartily at your service. I am, &c.

R. W.

Anecdote of Ninon de L'Enclos.

IN the year 1633, as the famous *Mademoiselle Ninon de L'Enclos*, one day sat alone in her chamber, her servant announced the arrival of a stranger, who desired to speak with her, but refused to tell his name. The young lady bade answer that she was engaged with company. "No, no," said the stranger to the lacquey; "I know well that Miss is by herself, and for that very reason call upon her at present.—Go, tell her, I have secrets of the last moment to impart, and cannot take a refusal."—This extraordinary message, by exciting female curiosity, procured the stranger admittance. He was of low stature, of an ungracious aspect, and his grey hairs bespoke age. He was dressed in black, without a sword, wore a *calotte* [a small leathern cape which covers the tonsure], and a large patch on his forehead: in his left hand he held a very slender cane; his features were expressive, and his eyes sparkled vivacity.—"Madam, said he, on entering the apartment, please make your waiting maid retire; my words are not for third persons."—Miss L'Enclos was a good deal startled at this preamble; but reflecting she had to do with a decrepit old

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man, mustered up some resolution and dismissed her maid.
"Let not my visit alarm you, madam; it is true I do not hon-
our all indiscriminately with my presence, but be assured
you have nothing to fear. All I beg is, that you would hear
me with confidence and attention. You see before you a man
whom the earth obeys, and whom nature has invested with
the power of dispensing her gifts. I presided at your birth;
the lot of mortals depends upon my nod; and I have conde-
scended to ask what lot you would wish for yourself; the
present is but the dawn of your brilliant days. Soon you shall
arrive at that period, when the gates of the world shall fly
open to receive you; for it depends wholly upon yourself to
be the most illustrious and the most prosperous lady of your
age. I submit to your choice, supreme honours, immense
riches, and eternal beauty. Take which you chuse, and de-
pend upon it, there exists not a mortal who can make you the
same ample offers." "That I verily believe, replied the fair
one, in a fit of laughter; besides, your gifts are so very splen-
did!"—"I hope, Madam, you have too much good sense to
make sport of a stranger: Once more, I seriously make you the
same offer,—but decide instantly." "Then, truly Sir, since
you are so good as give me my choice, I hesitate not to fix
upon eternal beauty:—but how, pray, am I to obtain such an
inestimable prize?"—"Madam, all I ask is, that you would
put down your name in my tablets, and swear inviolable se-
crecy." Mademoiselle de l'Enclos instantly complied, and
wrote her name upon a black memorandum book with red
edging. The old man at the same time struck her gently
upon the left shoulder with his wand.—"This now," resum-
ed he, "is the whole ceremony; henceforth rely upon eternal
beauty, and the subjugation of every heart. I bestow on you
unlimited powers of charming—the most precious privilege
a tenant of this nether orb can enjoy. During the 6000 years
that I have perambulated this globe, I have found only four
who were worthy of such rare felicity. They were Semiramis,
Helen, Cleopatra, and Diana of Poitiers; you are the fifth,
and I am determined shall be the last. You shall be ever
fresh and ever blooming; charms and adorations shall track
your steps: whoever beholds you, shall that instant be capti-
vated; and they whom you love shall reciprocally love you;
you shall enjoy uninterrupted health and longevity without
appearing old. Some females seem born to bewitch the eye,

and some the heart; but you alone are fated to unite these different qualities: you shall taste of pleasure at an age when others of your sex are beset with decrepitude; your name shall live while the world endures.—I am aware, Madam, that all this will appear to you like enchantment, but ask me no questions, for I dare not answer a word. In the course of your life you shall see me once again, and that 'ere fourscore years be run.—Tremble then! for three short days shall close your existence! Remember my name is *Night-Walker*." With these words he vanished, and left the Miss of eternal beauty shivering with fear.

This lady of amorous memory, adds the story, had a second visit from the little gentleman in black in the year 1706, as she lingered on her death-bed. In spite of the efforts of servants, he had found his way into her apartment; he stood by her bed, opened the curtains and gazed,—the patient turned pale, and shrieked aloud. The unwelcome guest, after reminding her that the third day would be that of her dissolution, exhibited her own signature, and disappeared, as he exclaimed with a hideous voice, "Tremble! for it is past, and you are to fall into the hands of Lucifer." The third day came, and l'Enclos was no more.

War,—when justifiable.

WHEN an offensive war has for its object the punishment of a nation, like every other war, it is to be founded on right and necessity. 1st, On right, an injury must have been actually received; injury alone being a just cause of war: the reparation of it may be lawfully prosecuted; or, if by its nature it be irreparable, which is the case when punishment is to be admitted, a nation is authorized to provide for its own safety, and even for that of all other nations, by insinuating on the offender a penalty capable of correcting him, and serving as an example.

2d, Necessity is to justify a war of this kind: I mean, that to be lawful, it must be the only way left for obtaining a just satisfaction, which implies a reasonable *security* for the time to come.

JURIDICUS.

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JURIDICUS.

Parliamentary Proceedings.

Debate on the Slave Trade, continued from p. 140.

*Committee of the whole House.**February 18th.*

Colonel Tarleton thought it his duty to declare, that he considered the abolition of the slave trade, as a measure fraught with the most dangerous consequences, which he certainly must oppose, as far, and as often as he could.

He then went into an historical induction of the African trade, from the year 1553 till 1697, when Parliament thought fit to establish the Company. The trade was afterwards thrown open, and government was at a considerable expence for forts, &c. He dwelt much on the circumstance, that this commerce was commenced by express parliamentary establishment, and always countenanced by the legislature; and therefore, he contended, that countenance could not be withdrawn without a breach of faith.

He contended, that the Africans themselves had no objection to the slave trade. These poor negroes, he said, thought themselves happier under the government of the merchants of this country, than to linger in a state of misery at home. The calamitous situation of these people in the West Indies, was consequently ideal; and the calumny, and excesses of criminality, which had been industriously propagated, might be termed imaginary scenes of woe. He dwelt on the lenity with which punishments were inflicted, by the planters on their slaves. From January 1784, to October 1786, only fifty-two executions had taken place, in a number exceeding 210,000; such instances of lenity did not often occur.

The deaths on the passage, he said, did not exceed, in the Liverpool ships, on an average, five out of the hundred; whereas, in regiments sent out to the West Indies, the average was ten out of the hundred. Many attempts had been made to cultivate the lands in the West Indies

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by white men, but the climate was unfavourable for them, that it never could succeed. He therefore considered the slave trade as absolutely necessary, if we meant to carry on the West India commerce and cultivation.

He next took a view of the effects it would have upon the commerce of Liverpool. The articles connected with this trade, he represented as numerous, and the profits upon these considerable; and it could not be annihilated without being productive of very bad consequences to them. He contended that other European governments were eager to seize upon this trade, were we to abandon it. By abolishing the slave trade, said he, you will only give other nations an opportunity, which they will not fail to embrace, of profiting by your folly. He next adverted to the numerous seamen this trade afforded. From Liverpool alone, he said, the navy might, at all times, be supplied with 993 seamen annually. West India property, he represented, as being very precarious, in consequence of the discussion on this subject. The insurrections at Dominica he attributed to the question in Parliament about the abolition of the slave trade. He did not see how the abolition of the slave trade could lessen the taxes. He addressed himself severally to the landed and to the mercantile interest, shewing that it would affect them ultimately, and conjuring them to join with him in resisting a measure so injurious to the national glory, commercial honour, and political interests of Great Britain.

Mr Grosvenor stated his reasons for thinking the abolition an impracticable measure. In allusion to a well known story, he said, he had twenty reasons for opposing the abolition of the slave trade; and the first was, that the thing itself was impossible; and therefore he would not give the other nineteen. The fact was, the trade depended upon the natives of Africa, not upon us. If we relinquished it, another would take it up.

The kidnapping and cruelties, he regretted; but these were the consequences of the natural laws of Africa. He acknowledged the slave trade was not an amiable business; neither was that of a butcher; and yet a mutton chop is a very good thing. On account of the profits of

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that trade, he thought we should not too rigidly scan the disagreeable circumstances attending it.

Mr James Martin spoke on the other side of the question. He remarked how much self interest warped the understanding. He had conceived that the custom of trafficking in slaves had been incautiously begun, without having foreseen its dreadful and necessary consequences; for he never could persuade himself that any man, under the influence of moral principles, could suffer himself, knowingly, to be carrying on a trade, replete with fraud, cruelty, and destruction. Here he expatiated on the cruelties necessarily dependent on this trade. He execrated the notion that interest should pervert the mind so much, as to apologize for it. He remarked on the impropriety of a parliament of free men, becoming the abettors of a system of slavery. On topics of this nature, he founded his hope that all parties would agree in reprobating this most infamous mode of traffic.

Mr Burdon recommended not a total and immediate abolition of the slave trade, but wished to see it gradually effected.

Mr Francis said, that without considering the state of Africa at all, but merely confining our views to the West India islands, the state of slaves was there, such as ought not to be tolerated by any civilized legislature. The power of punishment was, alone, sufficient to decide this. Where was that lodged, how was it awarded, and by whom was it inflicted? The party offended was the judge; he pronounced sentence between himself and the defenceless slave; and he too was the executioner. He inflicted punishment with his own hand; and every stripe he gave, only served to aggravate his passion; so that punishment, became in him, the gratification of a malignant brutality and revenge. The man too, who did this, was seldom the owner of the slave, whose interest might serve, in some degree, to moderate his fury.

One consideration that strongly weighed with *Mr Francis*, was, that he never could meet with an instance of a master having been convicted and punished, for having put a negro to death. The proprietors of slaves,

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would be more careful to treat them with mildness, and to encourage them to increase, when they found no other mode of being supplied. This would induce them to correct many enormities respecting the treatment of women.

Mr Francis adduced some particular instances of brutality of treatment, that had come out in the evidence: An overseer had thrown a slave into the boiling juice, which had occasioned his death in four days. What was his punishment? He was dismissed from his employment, and condemned to pay the price of the slave. A case had occurred, since the present enquiry was set on foot, not less atrocious. A girl of fourteen was so cruelly mangled with a cart whip, that she was unable to stand; and in that condition she was dragged along the ground, to what is called the hospital, where she died. The perpetrator of this murder was tried and acquitted by a jury, on the ground, that, as the girl was property, it could not be his intention to kill her. Was there not something in slavery, which debased equally the mind of the master and the slave?

The question being called for from several parts of the house,

Mr Pitt rose, and observing that it was now late, and the members much exhausted, while many persons seemed still to wish to deliver their sentiments on this subject, he moved to adjourn till next day; which after some hesitation, was agreed to. Adjourned till next day.

Tuesday, April 19th.

The committee on the slave trade being resumed,

Sir William Young declared himself inimical to the motion. He said, that were we to abandon the trade, it would be taken up by others. He represented, the Dutch, and Spaniards, and Danes, and even the French, as lying in wait to seize the first advantage that our abandoning the slave trade might lay open to them; and as holding out premiums to encourage their merchants to proceed in it; so that by abandoning the trade, we should only hurt ourselves, without advancing the cause of humanity.

He declared himself not convinced that the practice of kidnapping was so common in Africa, as had been represented; otherwise the countries on the sea coast could not be so populous as they are; and he asserted, that three fourths of the slaves came from the interior parts of Africa, where no kidnapping, by Europeans at least, could take place. He represented the people of Africa, as a barbarous, savage people, among whom murders and bloodshed would prevail to an astonishing degree, were they not permitted to sell the culprits, who would otherwise be massacred. He advised, that if the present motion should be over-ruled, consuls should be sent to Africa, to try to humanize the natives, and regulate the trade. He compared the gentlemen who contended for the abolition, to Pontius Pilate, who protested that they should be innocent of all they attributed to the trade, without taking any effectual steps to remove the evil complained of.

Sir William next turned his views to the effects the abolition would probably produce on the West Indies. He insisted that these colonies could not stand without an importation of slaves from Africa. By the measure proposed, the colony would be treated with severity, and the merchants reduced to ruin. More than twenty millions were mortgaged on property in the West Indies; the security to the lenders would thus be weakened, the credit to planters diminished, the slaves themselves would be more subjected to severe labour, on account of a deficiency of hands to perform the labour, the slaves would rebel against their masters, and all would be anarchy and confusion.

Mr Montague, in a few words, declared himself in favour of the abolition.

Lord John Russell hesitated about going the length of a total abolition, but wished some salutary regulations adopted.

Mr Stanley, (agent for the West India islands) spoke strongly against the abolition of the slave trade, as oppressive and unjust against a great body of planters and merchants. He observed, that acts of Parliament had passed about the time of William III. for encouraging and en-

creasing the trade, for the protection and for the cultivation of the colonies.

On the evidence, he remarked, some parts were true, some he knew to be fallacious, and others much exaggerated. He quoted Admiral Barrington, as an authority to show the necessity for discipline among the negroes, the Bishop of Gloucester and Saint Paul, to prove the antiquity of slavery, and Mr Locke, to prove that trade is always conducive to the interest of a kingdom. He contended, that the slaves were, in general, managed with great humanity in the West Indies; and that the particular examples of cruelty, that had been adduced, had only taken place in towns, where instances of great enormities are to be met with every where. He said, the colonies could not be preserved without the slave trade; denied that its abolition could be an act of humanity; though he admitted that certain regulations, for protecting the negroes against wanton acts of cruelty, might prove beneficial. He concluded, with setting forth the hardships which those persons would suffer who had purchased lands in the West Indies, particularly crown lands, within these few years; and hoped, that while the gentlemen professed so much humanity for slaves, they would be just to their own countrymen.

Mr William Smyth thought, that the basis of all religion and sound morality was, "Do unto all men as you would they should do unto you;" he, therefore, rejected the authorities for the antiquity and universality of slavery, as of no avail in the present argument. Upon the same ground, every vice and enormity might be defended. He expatiated widely on this subject, and answered many arguments, derived from authorities, that had been adduced by former speakers.

Mr Smyth then corrected several erroneous statements of facts, and matters of account, that had occurred in the debate. It had been said, the exports to Africa amounted to L. 1,000,000 Sterling, annually; he said the very highest year ever known, did not amount to L. 900,000, and at an average, to not more than L. 600,000. The imports from Africa amounted to L. 140,000. The to-

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tal value of the West Indies was stated in the report, to amount to L. 36,000,000, but the planters had represented it at L. 70,000,000. In the West India trade, the total tonnage had been stated at 240,000, and the sailors at 21,000. In this representation, all the voyages that any ship had made throughout the year, had been separately enumerated. When this fallacy was avoided, it appears, that the whole number of seamen in the West India trade, in the years 1788 and 1789, did not exceed 10,000, and the total quantity of tonnage, from Britain and Ireland, did not exceed 130,000 tons. A Mr King, he said, had come two years ago before that House, and had told them, that the merchants of the city of London, sent goods every year to Africa, to the amount of L. 100,000, which was true, when the value of the ships that carried these goods, was admitted into the estimate. He did not mention these things with a view to depreciate the branches of trade in question, the importance of which he was ready to admit, but merely to reprobate the unfair manner in which an attempt had been made to impose upon the House, by the gentlemen on the opposite side of the question. He farther remarked, that it had been contended, that the East India trade depended very much on the African trade; but between these he could see no manner of connection, unless it was that we exported to Africa, alone, nearly one half of all the gunpowder that we export from Britain, and that saltpetre, an ingredient in gunpowder, is purchased from the East India Company. The annual exports of gunpowder to Africa, he stated at 1,300,000 pound, for the purpose, he ironically said, no doubt, of promoting peace and civilization on that coast.

Mr Smyth afterwards took notice of the statements that had been made by others, as equally erroneous. A Captain Knox told the committee, that *he believed* that 802 slaves could have comfortable room in a ship of 147 tons; and that in a ship of 120 tons he had carried 130 tons of water, and 500 slaves. It was said by the merchants of Liverpool, that by means of this trade, 1500 sailors were annually produced at that port. But from the muster rolls that had been sent up from Liverpool, when carefully examined, it appeared that

in five years, 10,000 seamen had sailed from Liverpool, on whom there was a loss of 500 of the number, or at the rate of 22 *per cent.* Was this any proof of its being a proper nursery for seamen? The loss in the West India trade did not exceed one and a half *per cent.*

He farther contended, that the African trade, was not that gainful trade it had been represented; and that if gains had been made by it, these could only be accounted lucky adventures in a very hazardous employment, where much more was risked, to the endangering the lives of the slaves, than it was proper for that House to authorise. When a vessel was crowded like that of Captain Knox, a lucky passage may make it a gainful voyage; but what would be the consequence in such a case of a tedious passage? Humanity shudders at the bare idea of it! One slave trader only, had, fairly produced his books, Mr Anderson, of the city of London. His loss upon the whole did not exceed three *per cent.*; but he did not crowd his ships like the merchants of Liverpool.

Mr Smyth then took an extensive view of the arguments that had been adduced, refuting them as he went along; and producing many examples of shocking treatment that had been given to slaves on their passage, and in the West Indies, too shocking to be here repeated; concluding upon the whole, that the traffic in slaves was contrary to all principles of religion, justice, and humanity: That if it were abolished, the treatment of slaves in Africa, would be meliorated, and slavery itself, be annihilated in time, as it was in Europe, after the trade in slaves was prohibited. The continuance of the trade, he contended, was not necessary for the West India islands. These," he said, "were in a state of gradual increase with respect to population: if it were not so, there was a great fault somewhere; for the history of the world never furnished an example, where men and women were settled in countries congenial to their constitution, but where they did increase; and it was acknowledged by the gentlemen on the opposite side, that one reason of their being imported from Africa to the West Indies, was, because the climate was the same with their own."

[This debate to be concluded in another number.]

Dec. 7.

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THE BEE,

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LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, December 14. 1791.

SHEEP-FARMING IN THE HIGHLANDS, NOT
INCOMPATIBLE WITH POPULATION.

Written in the year 1788.

A dispute is at present carried on in this country, with some warmth, between two sets of men, equally distinguished for their patriotic dispositions; the one party recommending the introduction of sheep into the Highlands of Scotland, while the other reprobates that measure as the greatest evil that can befall their country. An attempt to show that sheep-farming needs not necessarily produce the depopulation dreaded, but that, under proper management, it may befriend it, ought to be received with indulgence. This will be found in the following essay. The essay was not written at present; it was composed seven years ago, at the desire of the agents of a noble proprietor, a lady of great fortune in the Highlands, who desired to have the writer's opinion of the most effectual mode of augmenting the prosperity of that estate. It is now given entire, as it perfectly applies to the present circumstances of the country. Some farther particulars of great importance, that require to be

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particularly adverted to, respecting the Highlands, will be taken notice of in a subsequent paper.

DR ANDERSON, with great pleasure, proceeds to give a general outline of the measures that he thinks promise most effectually to promote the improvement of Lady S-----d's estate.

In the first place, he deems it altogether impossible, either by premiums, or compulsive stipulations, to introduce any essential improvements in agriculture, where the people, in general, depend upon the produce of their own fields for subsistence. Nothing but a ready and certain market, for all the productions of a farm, can ever induce any man of common sense to bestow vigorous exertions in agriculture. But in a country, where the whole of the people are cultivators of the soil, no market for any of its produce can ever be found. Each person, therefore, finding that he can sell none of that produce, can as little afford to purchase any thing else. In that state of society, therefore, a general poverty of the people must prevail; and a listless indolence be very general among them.

In a corn country, where people were in these circumstances, the first step to encourage agriculture would be, to take away a great proportion of the people from practising the business of agriculture, and to make them follow some other employment, that would enable them to earn money sufficient to pay for their subsistence. In that case, these very people would become customers to the farmer. He would be enabled by that means to adopt such modes of cultivation, as he found were calculated to produce large crops at a small expence. In this manner a very few men, employed in cultivating the soil, could furnish food to a great number of persons. The fields would thus be made to yield much greater crops, though occupied by a few hands; only the proportion of spare

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produce would thus be augmented, and the rent that could be afforded for it, be increased; it would also become more and more productive, as the number of persons employed in other occupations increased.

Hence it follows, that in these circumstances, with a view to encourage agriculture, the great object to be aimed at, will be to find other means of employment for a great proportion of the people, so as to withdraw their attention wholly from that business, and to give those who still continued to follow it, an opportunity of doing it with energy and spirit.

The great difficulty is, to find out other employments that are suited to the situation and circumstances of the people, and to induce them, gradually, to abandon those habits and modes of thinking, to which they have been long accustomed, and to adopt others in their stead, without any of those violent struggles, that are always so productive of distress to numberless individuals who experience it.

To find out employment for the people on those coasts, is not a matter of great difficulty; but to mitigate the inconveniencies that always result from any kind of great change, in the situation and circumstances of a people, requires great caution, steadiness, and attention. Small errors, may in this case, be attended by the most fatal consequences; inattention to circumstances, seemingly of a trifling nature, may involve whole families in ruin; while, at the same time, a small deviation from a well digested plan may render the whole undertaking abortive. It is necessary, therefore, that when a change of this kind is to be attempted, such measures should be previously adopted, as that in case of any unforeseen difficulty arising, that evil may be quickly perceived, and effectually redressed, before it has had time to produce the baneful effects it naturally would have engendered.

The *fishery* upon the west coast, if put under proper regulations, might, alone, furnish abundant employment to a much greater number of persons, than all that could be spared from Lady S-----d's estate; but the natives of those districts, are, in general, so little acquainted with the benefits of the fishery, or the mode of carrying it on, that it will be some time before they can be induced to engage so heartily in that business, as to afford all the relief it is naturally capable of. To induce them to engage in it, they must be gradually allured to it, by the prospect of much greater gain than they can obtain in any other way; nor is there any method, so effectual to overcome the fears of those who feel they have not power to support themselves, in case of the smallest failure, as a steady and humane system of administration, which shall prove by *facts*, and not by *words*, that no advantage will, in any case, be taken of their weakness; but that the unfortunate may at all times with certainty rely on finding protection and support in every calamitous disaster.

The first and the most essential protection these poor people require, is a certainty that they cannot, at the pleasure of any person whatever, be made to abandon the house that their own labour has reared, or the small spot of ground which their own hands have cultivated, for the little accommodation of their family. This protection Lady S-----d can effectually give, by granting to those who shall settle, in such a place as experience shall point out as the most proper for a fishing town, what is called in Scotland, *seus*; that is, a right to hold in perpetuity, under a moderate reserved quietrent, under proper limitations sufficient, merely, to afford room for a house and small garden to each family, and no more.

This security granted, it will next be necessary to see that they be put into such a situation, as, by their own industry, they may be enabled to make a provi-

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sion for the subsistence of their families. If they are to follow the fishery, they must, in the first place, be provided with a boat, and the apparatus for fishing, otherwise they cannot be benefited by it. And if they have not stock to purchase these necessary articles, care must be taken that they shall obtain them by the aid of others.

Without parliamentary aid, on which I never wish much reliance to be placed, two modes of doing this occur. One is, to try to get some persons, who have a little money, to settle among those fishers, who, by becoming proprietors of boats, &c. may lend them out to the fishers, upon receiving from them a certain proportion of the fish caught, in return for the use of the boat, as has been long practised in the herring fishery in Loch Fyne. The other is, for the proprietor to furnish the boat, allowing the fishermen to pay up the price of the boat furnished, with interest thereon, by gradual and small installments, as the profits may be supposed easily to enable them to do. In a place that has been established for some time, and where there are many men who follow the same business, the first method would be by much the best; but in the infancy of an establishment, where competitors cannot be established to under-bid each other, with a view to check that tendency to extortion, which in such circumstances must always be expected, I should think the last would prove the most beneficial; and therefore shall here explain it more particularly.

Let us for the sake of illustration, suppose, that a boat for six persons should cost L. 5, and that the persons who received it, should obtain it, on the condition of repaying that sum by regular installments, in the course of five years at farthest. At the end of the first year suppose L. 1 of the principal were paid up, together with the interest for one year, which is five

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| shillings; the sum to be paid at the end of first year would be | L. 1 5 |
| At the end of the second year, interest of balance 4 s. and the principal, | 1 4 |
| At the end of the third year, interest 3 s. and principal, | 1 3 |
| At the end of the fourth year, interest 2 s. principal, | 1 2 |
| And at the end of the fifth year, interest 1 s. principal, | 1 1 |
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| | Total L. 5 15 |

Thus, in five years, would be paid up the whole of the principal and interest; the boat would remain the property of the fishers; and the proprietor, without losing one farthing, would have done a benevolent, as well as a most prudent action.

Let it also be stipulated, that these persons, if they shall find it convenient, may, at every term of payment, clear off as much more than the sums above specified as they please, if they shall find their circumstances will admit of it. Thus, if at the first term, instead of paying L. 1, 5 s. they shall find it convenient to pay L. 1, 15 s. the balance, bearing interest, would be L. 3, 10 s. (interest 3 s. 6 d.); and if next year they paid, L. 1, 13 s. 6 d. the balance would be reduced to L. 2, bearing interest, 2 s.; so that, if they found it convenient next year, to pay L. 2, 2 s. the debt would be totally annihilated.

In the same manner, on the same terms might be furnished nets and lines at the beginning, to such as could not afford to purchase them; which would be an infinite ease to the people, and could be no inconvenience to the proprietor at the beginning, and in the end would be a most material benefit. But that the people might be encouraged to spin the yarn, and manufacture the nets themselves, it would be pro-

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ON THE HIGHLANDS.

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per to be rather sparing in the article of manufactur-
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factured by themselves.

It is hard to say, what the amount of the benefit
would be, which might be derived from a very small
sum of money thus applied.

But this is not the only care necessary on the pre-
sent occasion: The new settlers must not only have
the means of earning bread put into their power, but
they must also have that bread put within their reach
to obtain it, when wanted. Two articles of pro-
visions only are wanted; oat meal and milk; with-
out which they could not easily subsist. With re-
gard to the first and the last, at the beginning, till mer-
chants are there settled, the proprietor should take
care that there can be no want: That is, that a suf-
ficiency can there always be had, to answer the calls
of the people. A small store of these articles, there-
fore, should be made. But that it might not deter
dealers in grain, on the one hand, from provi-
ding this article, it should, on no account, be sold at
a lower price, than it could be afforded for by a tra-
der, so as to yield a living profit; and, on the other
hand, to moderate the price of the monopolist, it should
be sold at no higher price, than to afford that reason-
able living profit. As the town increased, and deal-
ers in this article multiplied, the supervising care of
the proprietor would then become unnecessary, and
his store might then be given up.

With regard to the article milk, the proprietor
should take care to find out a respectable person of in-
dustrious habits and frugal manners, to settle as a far-
mer in that neighbourhood. The rent of the farm
should in this case be no object; but the farmer should
become bound, under penalty of a forfeiture of his
lease, this is a singular exception to a general rule, to
furnish to each family in the village, if they chose to re-

ceive it, a Scotch pint. (two quarts English,) of unskimmed sweet milk, each day, from the first of May, to the first of November, at the stipulated price of one penny, and from the first of November to the first of May one *chopin*, (one quart English,) each day, at the same price of one penny; leaving it always in the option of the settlers, either to receive that milk or not, as they found it convenient, upon giving notice of their intention, if they were not to take it, on the first of April, or on the first of October, or earlier, each year.

In consequence of this regulation, the settlers would always be certain of finding milk at a moderate price, without being subjected to the necessity of keeping cows themselves, and by consequence, without having any concerns with agriculture. The farmer finding a great demand for milk, at a much higher price than usual there, would be enabled to provide good food for his cows at all seasons; the profit he would make, would soon stimulate others to become his rivals; they would take land with this view, and offer their milk at a lower price to the inhabitants. A competition would thus be established, which would, on the one hand, reduce the price of milk to the inhabitants as low as it could be; and, on the other hand, would raise the price of land as high as it ought to be. After this period, all would go on in its natural course, for the benefit of all parties, without any care whatever.

[To be concluded in our next.]

Hints respecting the Study of Geography.

AMONG the many schemes that occurred to me for the advancement of literature, and the improvement of mankind, during a retreat in the country for twenty years, few of them seemed more to merit the public attention, than a plan for facilitating the study

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of history, and for rendering it more interesting to youth, than it has hitherto been. This plan was submitted to the inspection of the late Dr Samuel Johnson among others, who highly approved of it; but it would take up too much room in this miscellany, to develope it fully. In general, it consisted of certain devices for rendering the study of geography more plain and attractive; and for connecting that and chronology with history, in so clear a manner, as could not fail to make such an impression on the mind as no time could efface. To give an idea how this might be done, without demonstration, *viva voce*, and the necessary apparatus, would be difficult; though with this aid, nothing could be more simple or easy.

As to the geographical part, considered by itself, it will not be quite so difficult to convey some notion of the manner in which it was proposed to be taught.

Geography consists of two parts; one philosophical, in which the understanding and the judgement require to be exerted; the other might, perhaps, be called in some sort mechanical, in which the memory is chiefly concerned. It appeared to me that the study had been rendered less interesting, chiefly, because the first branch of this science had been, in a great measure, overlooked in teaching it; by which means it became particularly unpleasing to youths of the most vigorous understanding; and to others, the study of it was rendered greatly more difficult than it might have been; because the memory had much more to perform than would have been required, had the judgement been called in to its aid. The improvement in teaching it, therefore, was to exercise the judgement more, and to burden the memory less than formerly.

Perhaps the greatest mistake that can happen in the teaching of youth, is to overlook the ideas that arise in their mind, when an attempt is made to explain

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things that are not obvious. The human mind exerts its powers in a very different manner in youth and in manhood. During the first period, material objects make a strong impression; but the most difficult task that can be imposed on youth, is mental abstraction. As man advances in life, he slowly acquires that faculty; and after he has attained it, he finds it so much facilitates the business of acquiring new ideas, that he willingly has recourse to it when teaching others, without advertent whether they can go along with him or not. I cannot conceive any thing more preposterous, than to attempt to convey an idea to a child, of the causes of those curious phenomena that occur upon the globe, in respect to seasons, climates, &c. by the help of a mounted globe. Few men, indeed, who have not been a good deal accustomed to the exercise of abstraction, can carry their notions of it so far, as *perfectly* to understand all the parts of a mounted globe; and as to a child, I think it next to impossible, to make him at once comprehend, that a number of solid brass circles, crossing each other in various directions, very near the globe, represent certain ideal objects at an immense distance in the heavens. I call them ideal objects, because I find no other term for expressing this kind of abstract notion; they are, in fact, no objects at all; but merely imaginary things, to which we have given names, for the purpose of illustrating certain facts and phenomena, that take place on the surface of the earth. Every philosophic person knows, that no such lines exist in nature as those we call the *horizon*, the *ecliptic*, the *equator*, and so on. To represent these, therefore, by real lines, to youth, whose minds are always eager to seize upon palpable objects, is the most effectual way that could be taken, to bewilder their imagination, and to prevent their understanding from ever being able to comprehend that beautiful system of arrangement, from which such a variety of astonishing and beneficent ef-

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fects result. Teachers, however, who regard their own ease, rather than the improvement of their pupils, find this a most delightful expedient for amusing the undiscerning parent. A mounted globe is, in fact, one of the prettiest baubles that ever was invented for the amusement of children. They can be easily taught to perform a great variety of monkey tricks upon it; and may be able to tell you, like a parrot, that this represents one thing, and that another. These they consider as high acquirements, although they have no more ideas annexed to the phrases they use, than if they were to repeat as many words in an unknown tongue. Thus do the teachers impose upon their pupils; and their too credulous parents; and make them believe the young scholars are making rapid progress in science, when they are not only not advancing at all, but are even going backwards.

To give an idea of the causes of the variations of seasons, the different lengths of day, in different climates, and all the beautiful vicissitudes that are occasioned by the position and various revolutions of our globe, a simple unornamented ball, that can be easily placed by the hand in any position, with a bright lamp to represent the light of the sun, will be altogether sufficient. By placing this ball in the true position the earth actually bears in the solar system, and by giving it the necessary revolutions, all the phenomena that actually take place, will be illustrated in the most simple and perspicuous manner, so as to be obvious to the most ordinary understanding. And then, by making it assume other positions, and demonstrating, in the same experimental manner, the effects that would have thence resulted, the wisdom and beneficence of the supreme Being, who hath placed it in that only position, which best answers all the purposes of life, will be made manifest in the clearest manner. When the mind is thus strongly impressed, by means of just perceptions, that impres-

sion can never be afterwards effaced; in consequence of which, the physical nature of the climate, in every part of the globe that may be afterwards mentioned, will be distinctly recognised and fully understood.

These general notions being once conveyed, it will be proper to proceed, in the same train, to discriminate other particulars on the surface of this globe. That surface, it will now be perceived, in as far as regards climate, may naturally be divided into zones. The torrid, the temperate, and the frigid zones; the phenomena in each of which will be very different. A distinct account of the phenomena of the torrid zone, will afford a picture highly striking, and strongly attractive to a youthful mind: A similar view of the frigid zones will be not less striking, and strongly impressive; and these being once pointed out, the reasons of all the phenomena that we ourselves perceive in the temperate zone, will present themselves so easily and readily to the mind, as to occasion an exercise in the highest degree delightful.

Hitherto the earth, we shall suppose, has been considered as an uniform ball: It will now be proper to consider it as it really is, consisting of mountains and vallies, of rivers and seas: The history of mountains, and the phenomena that these occasion, will next engage the attention: And then will follow the history of vallies, of rivers, of lakes, and of seas, with all their various great and interesting appearances. Winds, rains, mists, tornadoes, hurricanes, thunder, will have their causes, phenomena, and effects, examined, as the several objects, that occasion them, pass in review before us.

The phenomena that result from the FORM of the land and water, and their various indentures upon each other, will next fall to be examined. Here, then, an exact delineation of the earth, as it is divided into land and water, comes to be required; a chart,

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therefore, or good map, with this delineation upon it, unincumbered with names of kingdoms, or other objects, should now be provided, to be compared with a similar delineation on a globe. The principal ridges of mountains, the most conspicuous rivers, and lakes, and islands, will here assume their places, to aid in explaining the appearances to which they severally give rise. Tides, and currents, trade-winds, monsoons, with their alterations, interruptions, and deflections, will here attract notice; with a variety of other particulars, too tedious to mention.

Animated nature might then pass in review. The plants peculiar to certain climates, as variously adapted to the uses of the animals who are fitted to inhabit these regions; the animals, themselves, whether local or universal, whether migratory or stationary, would next afford interesting objects of speculation; and lastly, the physical history of man, perhaps, the most universal inhabitant of the globe, with the means he has devised to render all nature subservient to his wants, would close this animated disquisition. It would be tedious to proceed farther in this investigation: Nor will it be necessary here. From what has been said, an adequate idea may be obtained of the general mode of procedure; and nothing more was intended. Here every address is made to the judgement. The understanding is informed at every step; and that perpetual jingle of words to the same purpose, which convey no distinct ideas, that so incessantly occur in every book of geography, would be entirely avoided. To a person who had obtained an accurate physical knowledge of the globe, nothing more is necessary to make him have a distinct idea of most of these particulars, than to observe its true position on the map.

Hitherto the pupil has been instructed in the physical history of the globe only, without attending to

the political arrangements that have divided it into separate allotments, which we call kingdoms, and states; but now, he might proceed to trace these as they have successively arisen upon it. The changes they have undergone, would be exhibited by a succession of maps, at different periods of history: The general objects would thus remain unchanged; but the various political arrangements, that had taken place upon the globe, would be made manifest to the understanding. Thus would geography and history mutually support and illustrate each other; and the study of both would be rendered more pleasing and more profitable, than they ever yet have been.

In a subsequent number will be given some account of the trade-winds, and other phenomena of tropical climates, and polar regions, as a small specimen of the details that might be expected in this mode of teaching geography.

PETER PENNYLESS. A FRAGMENT.

By John Carey of Philadelphia.

THE world, said I, is full of ingratitude! Aye, replied Peter Pennyless; so the world says: But I maintain it, that one half of the world, when they talk of ingratitude, do not understand the meaning of the expression. Impossible! said I; sure every school-boy—Hold, said Peter: These gray hairs come not without experience; and experience has taught me, that ingratitude, in the true sense of the word, is not so common as you seem to think. Prove me that, my friend Peter; and I'll burn Rochefoucault's maxims, and become enamoured with mankind! To prove it, replied Peter, would perhaps be difficult; but I'll relate a few facts; and they are such as occur every day.

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1791.

PETER PENNYLESS.

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I applied to my friend Presto for a favour.—Presto considered, for about half a minute,—and then, with a look of sympathetic friendship, declared, that he was very sorry that it was not in his power to oblige me. I felt a degree of pain, not on my own account, but on his. My mortification at the disappointment, was entirely swallowed up by the uneasiness which I felt, for having reduced him to the necessity of refusing a friend; and this sensation, if it did not increase my friendship for him, at least, did not diminish it.—I knew Presto would have served me, had it been in his power.

I next applied to Allegro. 'Yes, my friend! I am happy to oblige you.' And my request was immediately granted. For this favour, and it was a trifling one, but well-timed, I felt a degree of gratitude which I can hardly express: I would requite Allegro a thousand-fold.

On another occasion, I requested a favour of Penserofo; and Penserofo could have immediately gratified me, had he been so inclined. He would not give me an immediate answer;—but would think on it. A considerable time elapsed. No answer. I applied a second time, and obtained my request. I observed, however, a cloud upon his brow, which plainly indicated, that he was far from taking a pleasure in what he did. I am not naturally ungrateful; but, on this occasion, I felt very little gratitude.

To Severus I made known some difficulties, in which I was involved by the late war, and requested his assistance to extricate me. Severus started at the request, looked very serious, and required time to deliberate. After an interval of above a week, I renewed my application;—his countenance now wore an appearance of reserve and disgust; and, 'he had not as yet determined.' Again, I waited a considerable time for an answer; but in vain. I applied a

third time. Severus now looked,—but I'll not attempt to describe his look; suffice it to say, that a very glance of his eye was a dagger to my soul. The desired assistance, however, I did obtain, though with some difficulty; and attended with some remarks, admonitions, and something even bordering upon reproof, that hurt my feelings to the last degree. On this occasion, so far from feeling the smallest emotion of gratitude, I carried home a secret displeasure, and even something like resentment, against Severus.

How will you account for the different sensations which I experienced, on these several occasions? Was I ungrateful in the two last instances? Pensive, Severus, and others of their stamp, may perhaps think me so: But I trust, I shall be acquitted of the charge by every man of feeling and sensibility; and to such only would I appeal: For, as to those who are themselves unacquainted with the finer and more delicate sensations of the human breast, and can therefore make no allowance for their operations in others, I would be as unwilling to appeal to them, on the subject of sensibility or gratitude, as to a blind man on the subject of colours.

Let us then take a review of those different transactions; and examine what sensations they might naturally be expected to produce in the breast of any one not quite callous to all the finer feelings of human nature.

By Presto's immediate refusal, I was, at once, relieved from the pain and anxiety of suspense. Even this I considered as a favour; especially as the refusal was accompanied with expressions of friendship, the sincerity of which I had no reason to call in question: And besides, my wish was instantly gratified, on making application to Allegro; so that, in fact, Presto benefited me more essentially, by refusing me on the spot, than he could have done, by granting me the favour after a week's delay: For, in consequence of his speedy re-

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fusal, I received the benefit a week sooner, than would otherwise have been the case.

Allegro, by serving me at once, gave me a full opportunity of deriving every possible advantage from the favour he conferred; and thus enhanced its value. And then, his manner!—he appeared to consider the favour as a mere trifle; and to wish, that I should consider it in the same light. Nay he seemed to think, that it was I who conferred the obligation on him, by giving him an opportunity of shewing his friendship.—Thus he at once smothered, in their birth, all those painful and humiliating reflections which naturally arise in every feeling bosom, on asking, or receiving any favour, or obligation, and left my heart and mind free and open to the impressions of joy, friendship, and gratitude. I felt them in their fullest force: I feel them still; and will ever be proud to acknowledge an obligation to Allegro.

Penferoso, on the other hand, thought, and thought, and thought! perhaps, in fact, he never, in my absence, bestowed a single thought on me, or my concerns. In the interval of delay, to say nothing of the anxiety and uneasiness of expectation, I suffered inconveniences, to which I would not have been exposed, if he had granted the favour at once; and from which, the favour, when at length it was conferred, did not fully extricate me. Had he refused me at first, I would have immediately turned my eye upon some other person, who, like Allegro, would perhaps have obliged me without hesitation or delay.—As he had not refused me, I had still hopes of gaining my wish.—Fear constantly attends hope; and anxiety ever walks hand in hand with fear. My mind alternately agitated with hope, fear, and anxiety, I determined to wait his answer.—No answer given;—what's to be done?—Reveal my necessities to another!—Mortifying?—Renew my applications to Penferoso?—equally so!

On the whole, however, as Penferoso was already made acquainted with my situation, I thought better even to submit to the mortification of applying to him a second time, than to reveal my distresses to a third person.—With reluctance, I prevailed on myself to renew my solicitation;—my request, indeed, was complied with.—Observe, however, that the favour granted me was exactly of such a nature and consequence, that the pleasure resulting from it was but barely sufficient to counterbalance the pain and anxiety I felt from the delay, and the mortification attending the renewal of my request.—What room here for gratitude?

Had Penferoso, indeed, when at length he did grant my request, apologized for the delay,—had the accents of friendship burst forth from his lips,—had benevolence beamed from his eyes, they would have reached my heart, and there produced their natural effect, gratitude:—and if they there lie dormant, and decay,—'tis but for the want of the sun-shine of benevolence, to warm and animate the soil, to call them forth into birth,—and make them blossom to maturity.—Nothing of this kind attended the interview with Penferoso:—quite the contrary. I retired, therefore, with the resolution of discharging the debt as soon as it was in my power. When that duty was performed, I looked upon myself as exonerated from all further claims, on his part, and obligation on mine.

The service, indeed, which Severus rendered me, was of such magnitude, that the delight, and satisfaction arising from it, would have been more than sufficient to counterbalance the uneasiness and chagrin which I had unavoidably experienced, during the interval of suspense, and the pain attending a second, and even a third application.—But, unfortunately, Severus would not suffer me to incur a debt of gratitude. In the very act of conferring the favour, he threw so much additional mortification into the one scale,

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which was already but too heavily charged, as to make it quite outweigh all the pleasure and satisfaction that were in the other.—Having, therefore, fairly cast up the account, in my own mind, I found there remained, in his favour, a balance of pain and disgust. This pain and disgust he had, if not wantonly, at least unnecessarily subjected me to: I therefore credited the balance to his account.

Thus it happened, that Sevelus, in rendering me a considerable service, has diminished my esteem and friendship for him; whereas Allegro, by a trifling obligation, has taken immoveable possession of my heart: and Penseroso, although he conferred a favour, did not make greater advances in my friendship than Presto, in refusing one.

On the whole, from the observations which I have made, through life, I am thoroughly convinced that real ingratitude is not so common among mankind as superficial observers are apt to imagine. And I think, that any man that is at all acquainted with the secret springs of human actions, and has carefully noticed the conduct of those around him, must acknowledge, that, for one man that is ungrateful from want of principle twenty will be found, who, though otherwise of grateful dispositions, feel their gratitude frozen by the cold, unfriendly manner, in which favours are conferred, or suffered to perish through the delays, reluctance, and hesitation of those who confer them.

Almost every man knows, from experience, that the delay of an answer to a request, or of the performance of a promise, keeps the expectant in suspense.—Suspence is attended with anxiety and pain; and the transition—from the feeling of pain, to the feeling of resentment towards him who causes it, is so imperceptible, that when, by unnecessary delays, and procrastinations, the pain and anxiety is continued, we need not be surprised, if a degree of—I'll not say, “resentment;”—but at least, coolness, propor-

tioned to the degree of pain, should sometimes happen to spring up in the bosom along with it.

The heart of man is a fertile, luxuriant soil. Let any passion once take root there;—it soon flourishes, and gathers strength. And unhappily, the evil passions, like noxious weeds of every kind, are but too apt to flourish without the labour of cultivation. This coolness, therefore,—or if you please, resentment,—the longer it is nourished by hesitation and delay, strikes the deeper root, and branches out the farther.—And when at length the expected favour is conferred, what effects does it produce? —If conferred in a delicate and friendly manner, it may, perhaps, calm the uneasy emotions which took their rise during the intervals of delay; but as to gratitude, it cannot be expected to produce any, except it be a favour of very great importance indeed.—But if, on the contrary, the long expected favour, however great its value and consequence, be conferred in harsh, indelicate, degrading manner, though the necessities of the receiver may oblige him to accept it, yet, in the acceptance, he must feel an additional sting, which, added to his former disagreeable sensations, cannot but stiffle and smother all ideas of gratitude, that might for the moment attempt to force themselves into his breast, and can leave nought behind but disgust and resentment. In a word,—he will be no more obliged to the man, who renders him such a service, and in such a manner, than a hungry beggar would be, to a man, who on being asked for food, should, in a passion, sling a hard crust in his face, and knock out his teeth with it.—And here Peter ended.

I was going to reply;—but he would not stay. His friend Allegro had met with an accident, which prevented him from superintending his harvest.—Peter had just heard this; and was, when I met him, hastening unasked, and on foot, to Allegro's plantation, at the distance of ten miles, to assist his friend, in re-

Dec. 14,

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1791. ACCOUNT OF SWEDISH HORSES.

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November 26,

A. M.

1791.

Account of Swedish Horses.

To the Editor of the Bee.

SIR,

Gottenburg, 10th October, 1791.

I SHALL endeavour to answer your queries respecting
the breed of Swedish horses, though being no con-
noisseur in that article, it is not to be expected I can
explain every particular in a perfectly satisfactory man-
ner.

The description you give of the *Scots Galloway*, ap-
plies very nearly to the common run of Swedish horses.
They are a strong built, clean, neat, hardy little ani-
mals, better adapted in general to the road than for
draught; being rather under the size that would be
necessary for drawing heavy carriages. On a journey
they are indefatigable, living on any fare that can be
found, and scarcely ever tiring upon the road. Their
hoofs are firm, so that on the roughest road they sel-
dom stumble; nor is there such a thing known in this
country as swelled legs, and greasy heels, among the
horses. They are not so slim in the body as your English
hunters, and consequently they are much stouter in
their make than blood horses. The size is from
thirteen to fifteen hands in height. Upon the whole,
I think this is one of the most serviceable breeds of
horses I have ever known. Six of them, in a light car-
riage, on good roads, would perform wonders.

As to colour, the greatest part of them are gray, or
dark chestnut, sometimes called black, or a light dun.
The gray, when at pasture, or clean kept, are perhaps
the most beautiful; and that colour is much in fashion

here; but they are apt to look ugly when dirty. The chestnut is not liable to this defect, and these, as well as the gray, have certain marks upon them, which we call *dapple*, that have a beautiful effect when the horses are in good plight. The dun is a delicate colour, and is always accompanied with a black tail and mane, and a black list along the neck. There are other colours; but these are the most common, and the most esteemed. It is fancy alone that regulates the choice of colour; for no essential difference in other respects is observed to take place between horses of different colours.

Besides this breed of small horses, there is another of a larger size, and thinner make, which are bred chiefly in the province of *Scania*, that are employed almost exclusively for drawing of sledges. The quality for which the Scania horses are chiefly valued is the remarkable speed at which they go upon a trot. We have annually here, in the beginning of winter, a great show of this breed of horses at the races. Our races are not like yours for galloping horses, but for trotting in a sledge. The sledge is a light carriage mounted on skates; those for the race carrying one man only, who drives the horse. Sometimes forty or fifty of these sledges start upon the ice before this town at once, which forms a very grand exhibition, and it is surprising to see how fast they go. I have been assured that instances have been known of a horse, in this way, trotting at the rate of eighteen English miles in an hour. If the horse ever gets into a gallop, the prize is forfeited. The best of these trotting horses sell at a very high price. A hundred guineas, I believe, has been given for one of them. This breed of horses is also a very valuable one, though I do not think they are either so beautiful or so serviceable, for ordinary purposes, as the former.

If those particulars can afford you any satisfaction it will afford a sensible pleasure to,

Sir, your humble servant,

A.

Hints to the Learned.

IN the present state of Europe, it seems to be of the highest consequence to literature to have some repository for recording the existence and situation of valuable or curious MSS. that are, and must be in a fluctuating and precarious situation till they come to the press.

The plan and structure of this miscellany seems particularly suited to such record, which, if printed in a small *brevier type*, would take up but a small corner of it, yet if regularly continued would, in the course of a few years, furnish a *catalogue raisonnée* of rare MSS. or books to which the learned or inquisitive, in all future times, might have access, without the trouble of groping among thousands of printed catalogues or rummaging the inventories of religious houses, libraries, museums, or academies; an advantage also would result from such an institution in the Bee, that could not be obtained by any other means, that isolated MSS. in private cabinets, would, or might thereby be brought to light, and be continually secured from the risk of perishing from neglect.

The dissolved monasteries in Italy or France, or any community or individual desirous or willing to advertise the learned or curious in Europe of their property in this respect, would thereby have an agreeable and useful mode of doing this, and at the same time of enriching the republic of science and letters, by the knowledge of the existence and particulars of such magazines of useful intelligence.

By way of specimen of this institution, I shall fairly open ground upon this admirable plan, by giving a catalogue of a few.

Spanish MSS.

Hernando Gallego Relacion de la Viage—al Descub. de las Islas de Salomon.

Pedro Fernando de Quiros, Fol. Relacion de su Vida.

D. Andres de Medina Dairla, MSS. 1647. Memorial al Rey las Pidiendo la Conquista, de Islas de Salomon.

Torn—Hernandes. Declaracion muy puntual que hizo al Rey, D. Francisco de Borgia de Esquilace, de las poblaciones del Estrecho de Magellanes hechos por Pedro Sarmiento, y su navegacion a Chili, refiero los cabos, costes, surgidores, e Islas del estrecho i su navegacion.

Pedro Hernandez Declaracion sobre el estrecho de Magellanes.

Relacion del Reconocimiento del Estrecho de Magellanes hecha de orden de Pedro Valdivia.

Sebastian Viscaino Relacion del Viage i descubrimiento de las Islas llamadas ricas de Oro y Plata.

D. Francisco de Sanamigo Tuesta Fiscal de las Philipinas—Relacion de su Viage.

Copies of these MSS. are said to be either in the paper office at Madrid, or in the library of the Count de Campomanes.

Pedro Sarmiento de Gamboa descub. y Viage de Lima en España Nueva.

En la casa de Contratacion a Sevilla.

ALBANICUS.

Curious Anecdote of the Antiquity of Cyder.

Cyder is mentioned an ancient liquor both by Tertulian and St. Austin; the former calls it *sacrum ex pomis vinosissimum*. The other writing against the Manichees, who abstained wholly from wines which they objected to, the Catholick charges them with drinking the juice of apples, far more delicious than wine, or any other liquor. From these passages of Tertulian, and Austin, who were both Africans, Cardinal Perron (who was born in Jersey, of protestant parents) thinks this liquor was first known in Africa, from thence passed into Spain among the Biscayneers, and from thence into Normandy.

Tom and Susan.

THE low'ring clouds o'erhung the deep,
 In sable mists array'd,
 Whilst Fancy mock'd the balmy sleep
 Of Susan.—Lovely maid!
 From dreary dreams she 'woke to woe,
 And sought the shelly shore;
 The winds on ev'ry beauty blow,
 And rains incessant pour.

"O Tom! my ever faithful tar,
 Tho' sorrow nips thy bloom;
 Tho' thunder echoes from afar
 Thy yet uncertain doom,
 Methinks I view thee furl each sail,
 Unaw'd by rude alarms;
 Bravely defy the wint'ry gale,
 'Midst thought of Susan's charms."

She spoke.—The livid light'ning's flash
 Betray'd a ship in view,
 Which shatter'd by the thunder's crash,
 Had wreck'd her hapless crew:
 Her masts all gone,—the destin'd bark
 No longer could sustain
 The terrors of the gloomy dark,
 The raging of the main.

A gun! the herald of despair,
 Proclaim'd departing life:
 The vessel sunk 'midst mingled pray'r
 Of father, friend, and wife.
 Susan, with chilling doubts oppress'd,
 And lost in wild amaze,
 Beheld the scene with throbbing breast,
 With fix'd prophetic gaze.

Vol. YL

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The rising sun, thro' fleeting clouds,
 Frown'd on the swelling wave;
 Death wanton'd on the slipp'ry shrouds,
 Hush'd in a wat'ry grave!
 And thou, sweet maid, whose transient bloom,
 Eclips'd the envious day,
 The tyrant triumphs in thy doom,
 And smiles on thy decay.

The portrait of *her* own fair form,
 Press'd Tom's fond heart no more;
 She view'd it, batter'd by the storm,
 Dash'd floating to the shore:
 True to the call of hopeless love,
 She clasp'd it, gaz'd, and sigh'd;
 Then like the primrose in the grove,
 She droop'd, she fell,—she died!

ALBERT.

A Song.

BENEATH a weeping willow shade,
 Fit shade for hapless love,
 All wan and woe-begone was laid,
 Poor Edwin of the grove.
 Careless his waving ringlets hung,
 No garter grac'd his knee,
 Fast drop'd the tears, all while he sung,
 "My Flora loves not me."

And yet so sweetly she denies,
 That had I first been seen,
 What Colin is, in Flora's eyes,
 Lost Edwin might have been.
 Away, fond hope! tho' she conceals,
 All that she feels I see:
 Th' unspeaking eye too sure reveals,
 That Flora loves not me."

"I ne'er," she says, "will break my vow,
I ne'er can change my love :"
"Fast drop my tears, my eyes o'erflow,
I sigh, but must approve :
Approve I must, yet still repine,
And mourn the stern decree ;
For I can die, but ne'er resign,
The maid that loves not me."

"Accept," she says, "the honest glow
Of friendship, I can give ;
Sincerest friendship I bestow ;
Accept that gift and live."
"Cold gift !—I feel it chills my heart,
And I shall soon be free ;
I die, and from my Flora part,
Since Flora loves not me."

ALBERT.

AMINTOR.

Air in a favourite drama, called *NICODÈME dans la lune, ou la révolution politique, folie en prose, et en trois actes, mêlée d'Ariettes et de Vaudevilles*, par LE COUSIN JACQUES.

This comedy had an uninterrupted run of six months on the Paris theatre.

[Addressed to the King.]

"Un prince est une rose
Qu'amuse le zéphyr.
A peine est-elle éclosée,
Qu'on cherche à la flétrir ;
Une épine cruelle,
Offrant des traits
De cette fleur si belle
Défend l'accès.

Cette rose est l'emblème
De votre majesté.

Chez vous le diadème
 Couronne la bonté ;
 Mais ce qui nous chagrine,
 Hélas ! Seigneur,
 Vos flatteurs sont l'épine,
 Et vous la fleur."

[A translation is requested.]

An Account of the Country of the Seres.

The following elegant jeu d'esprit on the prevailing disposition in the British nation to grasp at every kind of trade, and to aim at conquests in every part of the world, from the most trifling motives, while they neglect to improve their own natural internal advantages, appeared in the Bombay Gazette for September 14. 1790, when the transactions respecting Nootka Sound were the popular topic of conversation.

SIR,

THE cotton trade to China, has become an object of great consequence to the Company, as well as to our settlement ; should the crops of that article, on this side of India, fail for want of rain, or should the country powers, ever ignorant of the true principles of commerce, prohibit its exportation, the effect to us would indeed be most serious. Agitated by these reflections, and ever anxious for the public good, I cannot help wishing, that an attempt may be made to discover the long lost country of the Seres. Pliny says, that they have plenty of cotton, which they know extremely well how to clean : Nor would they be difficult to conquer ; for he assures us, that they are gentle, and fly like wild beasts on the appearance of strangers. Their country, *Serica*, in my opinion, (for it is a matter of much dispute among all those well qualified to decide on the subject,) lies a great way to the north and east of the Bay of Bengal, and on the very borders of Scythia. Towards the extremity of that region, is the capital, *Sira*, a never failing source of cotton. Horace has laid down

the position of the country of the *Seres* with all the accuracy of a modern surveyor; and with much propriety despite those people who have the ignorance to place it in Africa. His words are,

Subiectos orientis oras
Siras et Indos.

lib. 1. ode 12.

I remember that Virgil has given his testimony to the existence of this mild and industrious people, in his second Georgic,

Quid nemora Æthiopum molli canentia lana?
Velleraque ut foliis depestant tenuia *Seres*?
Aut quos Oceano propior gerit India lucos,
Extremi sinus orbis?

I must not forget another very respectable authority for my *Seres*. This is no less a man than George Buchanan, the Scottish poet and historian. I lately read a poem of his, *de sphaera*, where he mentions this wealthy people. Avarice, he supposes, is displaying all the riches of distant regions, to inflame the imagination of a poor man, who at length is induced to leave his country, his family, and every thing that is dear to him:

—linquit patriamque, forumque, laremque,
Grandævolque patres, stentelque in limine natos.

Among the allurements for seeking a foreign land he does not forget the rich nation of the *Seres*:

—et dites alio sub sidere monstrat
Sylvarum excuavis *Seres*, nunc decolor Indus
Zinziber et piper accumulatur.

As I do not know that this poem of Buchanan has ever been translated into our language, I shall, for the benefit of your unlearned readers, put the passage into English: Alas! I fear it will remind many of us of a scene where we have once acted our part:

In search of wealth, the wretch resolves to roam,
Leave his dear country, and his happy home;
In vain his aged sire implores his stay,
With artless tears in vain his children pray;

Fir'd with the lust of gold, he only sees
The fleeces whit'ning on the *Seres* trees;
Or he beholds, as restless fancy roves,
The fragrant spices of the Indian groves.

But I forget my *Seres*, whose existence, I doubt not, I could prove by a still greater number of authorities. Such as strike me at the moment, I mention; and I conclude as I began, with my anxious prayers, that the Company, on considering the blessings of a cotton trade to China, may soon send a party of bold, intelligent men to discover and subdue that harmless nation.

I have been told by some dull people, on mentioning my scheme to them, that as the *Seres* are situated on the borders of Siberia, they could be of no use, either to the Honourable Company, or to this commercial island; and they say, that all the waggons in the world would hardly bring an annual cargo of cotton to this place, for the Sumat Castle. What a ridiculous objection!

QUID UTILE.

The Picture of a Rout.

All my readers have heard of a rout, though many of them can only form a very faint idea of what sort of a thing a rout is. For their satisfaction, the following description of a rout is transcribed from one of the fashionable London prints. It affords one instance, out of a thousand that might be produced, of the hard shifts to which people of fashion are often reduced, for the noble purpose of killing of time.

A ROUT is an assemblage of people of fashion at the house of one of them. The manner of making a rout, is this.

Lady A, or lady B, or lady C, or any other capital in the alphabet of fashion, chuses a distant night, which may not interfere with any other rout, but which, if possible, may clash with some public amusement, and make a

noise in the world. She issues cards, intimating, that on the night specified, "she fees company." These cards are sent to several hundred people; not because they are relations, or friends, or acquaintance; but because she has *seen* them, or because their presence will give an *eclat* to the thing.

Before eleven o'clock at night, which is *high tide*, the house is crowded with a company of both sexes, and of all ranks. Card tables are placed in every room in the house; and as many in each room, as will barely leave *interspaces* for the players to sit or move about. Coffee, tea and lemonade are handed about.

Confusion is the very essence of a *route*; and every lady who gives a *route*, takes measurement of the fashion, and not of her house. Many more persons are invited than the place can hold; and she enjoys the inconvenience, the fatigue, the heat, and other circumstances peculiar to a *route*, with as much heartfelt pleasure, as a player who hears the screams and noise of an immense crowd flocking to his benefit. The blunders of servants, the missing articles of dress, or the tearing them; the repeated exclamations of Good God! How hot it is! Bless me! Lady Betty, I am ready to faint! Dear me! O la! &c.; these afford exquisite satisfaction to the lady of the house; whose happiness may be deemed perfect, if she hears that the street has been in an uproar, or that some of the nobility's servants have been fighting, some of the carriages broke, or some of the company robbed by pickpockets at the door.

Pharo-tables are indispensable at *routes*; and these, as well as the cards, and other implements of gaming, are provided by a set of gentlemen, in the other end of the town, who make a comfortable livelihood, by lending out their furniture *per* night.

At a *route* it is not necessary to take much notice of the lady of the house, either at entrance or exit; but you must provide a seat at some table, *win* if you can; but at all events *lose* something. Very considerable losses enable a *route* much; and if you can have the credit of a young

heir being done over at your *route*, it establishes the credit of your house for ever!

Such is a *route*; and of such *routes*, it is not uncommon hear, that there are no less than *six* in one night; a circumstance extremely encouraging to those, who, upon the faith of people of fashion, embark their property in the establishment of operas or theatres.

Liberal Warfare, by Dr Franklin.

By the original law of nations, war and extirpation were the punishment of injury. Humanizing by degrees, it admitted slavery instead of death. A farther step was the exchange of prisoners instead of slavery; another, to respect more the property of private persons, under conquest, and be content with acquired dominion. Why should not this law of nations go on improving? Ages have intervened between its several steps;—but as knowledge of late increases rapidly, Why should not these steps be quickened? Why should it not be agreed to, as the future law of nations, that in any war hereafter, the following descriptions of men should be undisturbed, have the protection of both sides, and be permitted to follow their employments in security, *viz.*

1st. Cultivators of the earth, because they labour for the subsistence of mankind.

2d. Fishermen, for the same reason.

3d. Merchants and traders in unarmed ships, who accommodate different nations, by communicating and exchanging the necessaries and conveniences of life.

4th. Artists and mechanics, inhabiting and peaceably working in open towns.

It is hardly necessary to add, that the hospitals of enemies should be unmolested:—They ought to be assisted.

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Parliamentary Proceedings.

Debate on the Slave Trade, continued from p. 200.

February 18th.

Sir William Young objected to our relinquishing the slave trade, on the footing that others would adopt it. He denied that the negroes were subjected to hardships; and said, the alleged cruelties of the planters were unfounded. He said, the captives were, in general, persons condemned for witchcraft, who would be made to suffer death, if not rescued by the Guinea traders, of course, the trade might be called, rather an exertion of humanity, than of cruelty.

Lord Caryfort said, that if he had entertained any doubts with respect to the question, they would have been completely removed, by the manner in which it had been introduced, and the manner in which it had been opposed. The measure which was now proposed, was supported by policy, as the first interest of every nation, was an adherence to justice. He recommended to the House, a consideration of the defective legislation, respecting slaves in the West India islands, alleging, that the consolidated act, of the Assembly of Jamaica, held out no relief to the negroes.

Colonel Phipps represented the governments in Africa, as in no respects resembling those in Europe. They were founded upon absolute despotism: The great men were slaves to the governor, and those of lower rank, slaves to the former. Prisoners of war were all subjected to slavery; and he saw no harm in their being purchased by our merchants, as well as by others. He contended, there were laws in being for the protection of slaves, though he owned these stood in need of amendment. He doubted if the number of negroes could be kept up in those islands without importations from Africa.

He contended, that the treatment of the negroes in the West Indies was, in general, mild and humane: That the acts of cruelty which had been stated, were particular exceptions, like what had taken place in England itself, by

a Mr Brownrigg, and some others. In proof that the negroes in the West Indies are chearful and happy, he alleged they were fond of ornaments, which could not be the case were they not happy. He approved of enacting laws for their farther protection, and recommended the appointing of clergymen as inspectors to overlook the conduct of the owners of slaves.

Mr Pitt said, he would not argue this point merely as a question of feeling; but he chose rather to consider it as a question of expediency or in expediency. On this ground he should examine it; observing, as a necessary precaution against misunderstanding his sentiments, that no expediency would hinder him from assenting to it, unless it could be shewn, that the legislature of a country had not a right to bind its subjects, and to prevent them from a violation of the general and fundamental principles of justice and morality.

It had been said, that no adequate means of cultivation could be found for the West India islands, if the slave trade were abandoned. In considering this question, he should first refer to Jamaica, both as the most important of the West India islands, and as that in which they had before them the most accurate accounts of the importation and propagation. From these documents, and the oral testimony of gentlemen who had spoken in support of the contrary opinion, he trusted he should prove, to the satisfaction of the committee, that there was the prospect of securing the cultivation of the lands, without any material diminution of the number of slaves, in the first instance, and of laying the foundation of a future increase, on such solid and permanent principles, as could not be shaken in the natural course of things, and would render the state of the island, infinitely superior to a dependence on importation.

Mr Pitt entered into an examination of the statement that had been made of the proportional decrease of the slaves, comparing one account with another, and pointing out in what each was correct or incorrect; from which he deduced, that allowing the number of slaves, not rated in the tax tables, to bear the same proportion to the number rated in 1763 and 1788, the decrease in number, upon an

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average of the whole period, had been less than one *per cent.*; and towards the end of this period, it had been reduced almost to nothing; and if the seasoned negroes alone, were taken into the account, the births considerably exceeded the deaths. He took notice of the advantageous change that had taken place in the islands during the American contest, by inducing them to rear more provisions there and the benefits this occasioned. He remarked, in a particular manner, the vast decrease that took place among newly imported negroes, nearly one-third of whom died in the first seasoning, and among those who survived, scarce any births took place during the two first years. If the slave trade were stopped, he, therefore, observed, that this extraordinary mortality would be stopped; and the apparent decrease, that at present takes place among the slaves, would be converted to a real increase. If to this was added, the effect to be expected from regulations, and a better mode of treatment, proceeding from a near and urgent sense of interest, a gradual increase would take place.

It had been remarked by an Honourable member, well acquainted with the state of the islands, that one creole slave, born on the island, was worth two negroes imported from Africa. With what pleasure then should they not look forward to a system, which, in a short time, will make all the slaves, creoles, and, of course, render them of double value? When the renewal of slaves can only be obtained by their natural propagation, there will be a necessity of treating them with lenity and care, which will finally lead to their emancipation, when they will rise by degrees to the sentiments and privileges of free men. This will be another source of public prosperity to this country. The energy of freedom will enable them to give to the West India islands, a degree of cultivation which slaves never could bestow. In proving this, he had proved more than he was called upon to prove; it was sufficient for his argument, that no great harm could result from the abolition: It now, he hoped, would appear, that many benefits would accrue to these islands from the abolition.

Mr Pitt then remarked, that the hasty and inconsiderate abolition of slavery, which had been attributed to those who had brought forward the abolition of the slave trade, had ne-

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ver entered into the imagination of any rational man. In the condition into which we have brought them, a rash emancipation, before the objects of it were instructed to use this precious gift with discretion, would be to commit a breach of duty, not to confer a benefit; but it was impossible not to say, that as the means of instruction were given them, they ought to be gradually released from the severity of servitude, to which they are now subjected. If we used all our endeavours to improve their morals, and enlighten their understandings, they would, by their industry, amply repay our protection. Instruction, much more than regulation, would improve their value. That their value would increase with their degree of freedom, was no wild speculation of his. It was founded on the general principles of human nature, and sanctioned by the invariable testimony of human experience. If we gave them proper encouragements, they would display proper exertions: If we gave them the spirit of human action, they would shew human energy. On these grounds, he was convinced, that the decrease of slaves, by the immediate stop to the importation, would be inconsiderable; that it would be temporary; that it would gradually diminish; indeed, that it would be followed by a great and permanent advantage, with all the other benefits that he had stated.

Mr Pitt next considered the consequences of the trade to Africa; and endeavoured to prove, by many forcible arguments, that the barbarities of which the princes there, were by all parties allowed to be guilty were to be solely ascribed to the trade in slaves. Remove the temptation to make slaves, and the ardour for that inhuman hunting will abate: Do not purchase this commodity, and it will be no longer prepared for the market. The indiscriminate carnage which would be made of prisoners, as many had contended would be the case, were the slave trade abolished, he shewed, was only an imaginary bugbear held up to view for the present, to serve a purpose; no such practice was ever known universally to prevail. If they would sell them for profit, they would employ them in labour for profit also. After many pertinent observations, he concluded this branch of the subject with observing, that their prince might be supposed to consult, sometimes, the

interest of the community, were it not for our perverted system, which set his interest at irreconcilable variance with that of his people.

Mr Pitt remarked, that the crime of witchcraft, which served as a pretext for condemning so many of the natives of Africa to slavery, was one of that nature, to which we could not annex any accurate idea, and seemed to be only a pretext adopted for bringing the poor people into the snare that we had prepared for them. We were, he said, the cause of this, and almost all the other evils that desolated this fine country.

He then adverted to the benefits that might be derived from the African trade, could we be induced to abandon that of slaves, and cultivate those that depended on their industry and arts. Africa, possessed treasures, he said, which, in the way of commerce, ought to be extremely useful to Europe, which had hitherto been neglected. Why should we neglect the products of Africa, while we ransacked all the other kingdoms of the globe for articles of luxury and convenience? He then painted, in glowing colours, the evils that were brought upon all these regions by our execrable slave trade: He followed the natives to the West Indies, and painted, in an affecting manner, the evils they there endured; and after many other pertinent observations, he concluded a very pathetic speech in words to the following effect: "If the greatest possible degree of political expediency, were put in the balance with horrors such as those; the greatest possible degree of expediency, would kick the beam in the eye of justice and humanity: But when we find, as I think it has been clearly demonstrated, that this execrable traffic is as opposite to expediency, as it is to the dictates of mercy, of religion, of equity, and of every good principle that should actuate the breast, how can we hesitate a moment to abolish this execrable commerce of human flesh, which has too long disgraced our country, and which our example will, no doubt, contribute to abolish in every corner of the globe?"

Sir Archibald Edmonston spoke a few words too low to be heard.

Mr Alderman Watson contended, the abolition of the slave trade would ruin the West Indies, and destroy our Newfoundland fishery, as there, alone, we could find a market for bad cured fish.

Mr Fox, in a speech of great force and energy, took an extensive review of all the arguments that had been adduced against the abolition, endeavouring, with great ingenuity, to show, that they were either founded on ill grounded facts, or that the reasoning was fallacious. He denied that the trade had ever received the sanction of Parliament; it had only been winked at; and he injured the committee, in the most solemn manner, not now to sanction, by their vote, such a detestable trade. He made a distinction between political and personal freedom; the last of which, he held to be the greatest blessing that man could enjoy, and what no one person was authorized to take from another. He maintained, that the numbers might be kept up, and even augmented, in the West Indies, by natural procreation, were the slaves mildly treated. In taking a review of the means by which slaves were obtained in Africa, he remarked, that those who approved of the trade, wished to sanction the diabolical doctrine of the divine right of kings to do wrong, in the most extensive sense of the word. He reprobated the idea of cruelties being committed only by those who were insane, by an appeal to experience and historical facts, "Who ever imputed the crimes of Caligula to madness, or found an apology for Nero in the derangement of intellect? Did Domitian practise his enormities through a defect of understanding? Or were the horrid acts of Caracalla, the extravagant impurities of Heliogabalus, or the collected vices of Commodus, accounted for by insanity? Why then should we trust so large a part of the human race to so capricious a security, as man's nature, in a state of despotic authority?" He mentioned some shocking instances of barbarity, that had been brought out in evidence before the committee; but stopping in the recital, he said, "I see your hearts are unable to bear these tortures, and yet you will sanction them by law. Humanity does not consist in a squeamish ear; it belongs to the mind as well as the nerves, and leads a man to take

measures for the prevention of cruelty, which the hypocritical cant of humanity contents itself with deploring: In the indignation of justice, we condemn to death a low pilferer, a pickpocket, or a highwayman, while we sanction the pillage, robberies, and murders of this horrid trade." He then considered the several arguments that had been adduced, one by one, pointing out their absurdities with infinite force of reason; but, seemingly sensible of the manner the vote would go, he pledged himself, in whatever situation he should be in that House, at all future periods, to give the proposition all the possible support he could.

Here several members spoke a few words declaratory of their sentiments, after whom rose,

Lord Sheffield; he reprobated, in strong terms, the overbearing language that had been used by some gentlemen, in respect to others who might differ with them in opinion, on a matter of great difficulty. At any other time he said, he could demonstrate, that the abolition, as proposed, was impracticable. He denied the right of the British legislature to pass such a law. He warned the Chancellor of the Exchequer, that the day on which such a bill should pass into a law, would be the worst he had ever seen.

Mr Milnes answered, and insinuated that the noble Lord had changed his opinion since he became member for Bristol.

Lord Sheffield with some warmth replied.

Mr Milnes read some passages of his Lordship's pamphlet, which, he thought, strongly corroborated his opinion; and thought Lord Sheffield, on his own grounds, ought to have taken the opposite side of the question.

Mr Wilberforce made a short reply to several arguments that had been urged against his proposition; and at half past three o'clock, the House began to divide.

Noes 163.—Ayes 88; majority 75 against the abolition.

Thus was ended, for this time, one of the most important debates that has taken place in the British senate, on a general question of right and expediency. The parties on both sides, were too warm in the debate, to be able to advert coolly to all the arguments on either side; and there is every reason to believe, that the question will be again in-

roduced, ere long, into the House of Commons. On the one side, the rights of men, and the principles of humanity, seem to be so highly injured by the slave trade, as now carried on, that it is no wonder, if persons who only speculate upon it, should hold it in detestation. On the other hand, it has been so long practised, and, during all that time, has been deemed essentially necessary to the well being of the West India islands, that it is little to be wondered at, if those, who have a strong interest in them, should be alarmed at the prospect of an abolition, and therefore oppose it with all their might. Neither party have yet considered, with due attention, one proposition, which appears to be of great moment in this question, *viz.* Whether labour, in any case, can be performed by slaves, as cheap as by freemen. The time is not, perhaps, yet come, when this question can meet with a fair discussion; yet it is, perhaps, only after this shall be fairly decided, that parties will ever come to be of one mind. One party till then may be out-voted; but they will not be convinced.

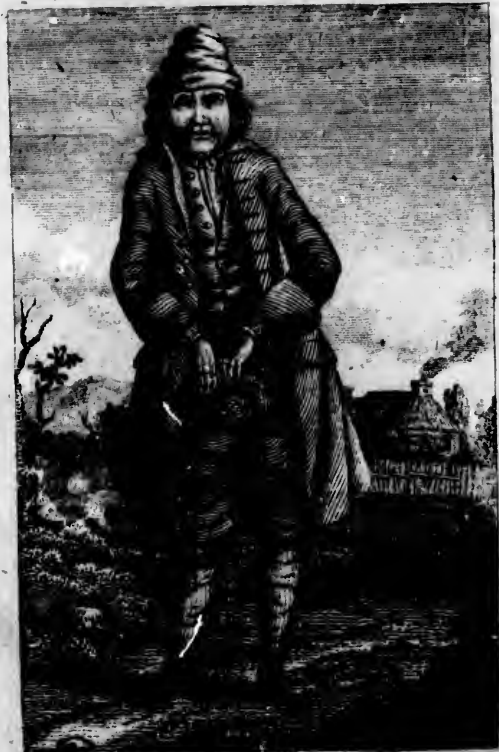
I shall close these observations with a remark, that must have occurred to every person, who has attended for any length of time to the debates in Parliament, and have compared these with the succeeding history of the country; it is, that nothing can be more fallacious, than the fears that are often entertained of changes, that are proposed respecting old established customs. In every session it will appear, that some proposed regulations have been opposed, with the greatest keenness; and inevitable ruin has been predicted, if the proposed regulations should be adopted; yet it often happens, that, in succeeding times, the parties themselves have acknowledged, that they have been great gainers by the very measures they opposed. To adduce all the examples of this sort that might be found, would fill many volumes. It may not be improper, only on this head, to observe, that it is but of yesterday, that Sir William Dolben's bill for regulating the slave trade, was introduced. It was opposed by the traders to Africa from Liverpool, as tending greatly to diminish their profits; yet I have been assured, from a respectable authority, that these very persons are already convinced, that they have been great gainers by it.

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J. B. and W. W. 1772

DOCTOR ADAM DONALD, Prophet
of Bethelme. Born Anno 1703. ob. Anno 1780

THE BEE,

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

WEDNESDAY, December 21, 1791.

Sketches of the Life of ADAM DONALD, who was well known in Aberdeenshire, for many Years, by the Name of the PROPHET OF BETHELNIE.

In all ages, and nations, mankind have discovered a strong propensity to believe in the supernatural agency of superior beings on the human mind, and an invincible desire to pry into the secrets of futurity. It has also been a very prevalent notion, among all nations, that those persons, whose bodies are distorted, or who are deprived of some of those faculties that are common to the greatest part of mankind, are, in a peculiar manner, under the influence of superior agents. The Pythian priestess, before she delivered her oracles, appeared to be convulsed by the irresistible power of the god; and those who are affected by epileptic fits, have been often viewed with a reverential awe by the vulgar. Upon this principle, it has also happened that the violent contortions of dumb persons

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Prophet
Anno 1780

in their efforts to make themselves be understood, have been very generally considered as the sensible operations of some invisible agent struggling within them, from whose superior knowledge the credulous have hoped to derive information respecting those things that have been wisely hid from the knowledge of man. Dumb persons have thus been considered as capable of foretelling future events, and of knowing by what agency past events, in many cases, have been brought about. On this foundation has been built the successful plans of fortune-tellers, who have guled the vulgar in all ages.

The singular object of the present memoir, has remarked with what a superstitious veneration the ignorant people around him contemplated that uncouth figure he inherited from nature, and shrewdly availed himself of this propensity for obtaining a subsistence through life. He therefore affected an uncommon reservedness of manner. Pretended to be extremely studious: spoke little; and what he said was uttered in half sentences, with awkward gesticulations, and an uncouth tone of voice, to excite consternation, and elude detection.

In Aberdeenshire, at the period he was born, an opinion universally prevailed, nor is it yet entirely abolished among the vulgar, that children, when in their infantine state, were often carried away by the fairies (an ideal set of puny beings whom Shakespear has immortalised); and in their stead was substituted other children, which possessed faculties very different from those of the human race. In this manner, they invariably accounted for such sickly misgrown children as did not increase in size with their years, and whose small sickly features, and weakly voice seemed not to accord with the common standard of human nature. If these children died, it was a deliverance that the neighbourhood thought a happy one. If they

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lived they were always viewed as supernatural in mind as well as in body.

To the operation of these causes, Adam Donald, who was, for many years, known by no other name than that of the prophet of Bethelnie, owed the foundation of his extensive celebrity. His parents were in no respect distinguished from the ordinary class of poor people in that country, who, at that time, found great difficulty to provide a scanty subsistence for themselves. Nor could their son, from the distorted nature of his body, undertake the fatigue of those robust employments in which people, who live in the country, must engage for obtaining their subsistence. He therefore was induced to amuse himself with such books as chance enabled him to obtain; and though he could scarcely read the English language, yet he carefully picked up books in all languages that fell in his way; and the writer has at present, in his possession, books in French, Latin, Greek, Italian, and Spanish, that were bought at the sale of his effects, after his death. He delighted chiefly in large books that contained plates of any sort; and Gerard's large Herbal, with wooden cuts, might be said to be his constant *vade mecum*, which was displayed with much parade on the table, or the shelf, among other books of a like portly appearance, to all his visitors.

The place called Bethelnie, where he was born, lies about twenty miles northward of Aberdeen, and is now a small hamlet, though it had been, for many years, the seat of the parish church, which was moved from thence to Old Meldrum, a new-built village in the same parish, in the beginning of the present century: nor did the prophet fail to avail himself of this circumstance to excite the veneration of the people. As the parish church was allowed to fall to ruin, and the walls of the church-yard were kept up, he made a practice of frequenting that sequestered spot, by himself, where it was not doubted but he held frequent

converse with departed spirits, who informed him of many things that no mortal knowledge could reach.

Thus it was, that his fame began to be spread in the country around. When articles of dress or furniture were amissing, he was consulted; and his answers were so general, and cautiously worded, that although they could scarcely be at all understood at the time, yet when any of the things lost were accidentally found at a future period, the people were easily able to perceive that his mysterious answer plainly indicated where the goods had been, if they had had the ingenuity to expound it. Thus did his fame increase; and scarcely any thing was deemed beyond the reach of his knowledge.

But it was not as a necromancer only that Adam Donald was consulted. He also acted as a physician. He was chiefly consulted in cases of lingering disorders, that were supposed to owe their origin to witchcraft, or some supernatural agency of this sort. Nor let the reader be surprised to hear of such credulity as this supposes during the present century; for I can assure him, that, at a very late period, I have met with undeniable proofs of the prevalence of such opinions there, even among persons who, in other respects, were by no means deficient in talents. In these cases, he invariably prescribed the application of certain simple unguents of his own manufacture, to particular parts of the body, accompanied with particular ceremonies, which he described with all the minuteness he could; employing the most learned terms he could pick up to denote the most common things; so that, not being understood, the persons who consulted him, invariably concluded, when the cure did not succeed, that they had failed in some essential particular; and when the cure was effected he obtained full credit. Thus did his fame spread to the distance of thirty miles around him, in every direction; so that for a great many years of his life there was never a Sunday that

his house was not crowded with visitors of various sorts, who came to consult him either as a necromancer, or physician. His fees were very moderate, never exceeding sixpence, when no medicines were given; and I believe a shilling was the very highest he ever obtained.

By this means, however, he contrived to pick up a comfortable subsistence for himself; and by this means too, when he was pretty far advanced in life, he prevailed on one of the handsomest girls in that neighbourhood to marry him.

But though he was able to impose upon those at a distance by the appearance of much wisdom, he found it more difficult to do so with regard to his own family. From motives of prudence indeed, his wife took care to keep the secret; but his daughter contrived often to cheat him, and afterwards, among her companions, laughed at his credulity. His custom was to drop all his money into a purse that he always carried about with him, and after the labours of the day were over, he usually gave it to his wife, without counting the money; but sometimes, when she happened to be out of the way, he would give it to the girl, and desire her to count the money. She did so, and when he asked her how much was of it, she always told him a sum several shillings short of what it really was.—“Aye,” said he, “you are right, my dear, I knew there was exactly that sum.” She laughed in her sleeve at his credulity, pocketed the money herself, with which she did not fail to buy fine clothes, which produced its usual effect of making her giddy and thoughtless.

The reader may perhaps suspect, from the prudence with which this man conducted himself, that his talents were, in some respect, superior to most men; but it appears to me, that they were really much below that standard. He never had any friend with whom he kept up a cordial intercourse; he left no fort

of writings behind him ; nor have I ever heard of a single saying of his that was worth repeating, unless it be the four lines of poetry which he desired the painter to put at the bottom of his picture *. His reserve seems to have proceeded from want of ideas ; and he was more indebted to his singular appearance than any thing else for his celebrity. It must be admitted, however, that he had the art of concealing his defects, by never vainly attempting to display his knowledge. His wife was an active, prudent woman, whose superior judgment supplied the defects of his.

It is a melancholy consideration to think, that many human beings, who were, in other respects, possessed of sound understanding, should have become so strongly the dupes of prejudice as to reverence decrepitude and weakness, and to imagine that these defects were the certain proofs of superior knowledge : but such is the weakness of the human mind, that prejudices of one sort or other continually serve to pervert the understanding. The foibles of one age are ridiculed in the next, while others perhaps equally ridiculous take possession of the mind. It ought to be the business of the faithful delineator, truly to mark the striking features of the times as they occur, that the memory of them may be preserved among mankind, not so much with a view to serve as subjects of ridicule, as to prove a caveat against indulging to excess those unreasonable notions, whatever they may be, which the spirit of the times tempt mankind to cherish to an extravagant excess.

* The lines alluded to above, are these :

Time doth all things devour,
And time doth all things waste.
And we waste time,
And so are we at last.

Dec. 21,

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1791.

ON AFRICA.

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ON AFRICA.

To the Editor of the Bee.

SIR,

WHEN you cast your eye around the world, with the page of history in your hand, you will see a rotation in human affairs that escapes the vulgar, and will tend to confirm you in the belief of a wise superintending Providence, that brings great and benevolent designs to pass for the improvement of the moral, as well as the natural world, by means so latent, and by steps so gradual, that they defeat the powers of human foresight, and are rather to be admired as they evolve in the great drama of the universe, than to be studied as a system.

It seems every day more evident that the tropical region of Asia was the cradle of our species:

That Asiatic colonies spread themselves first into Egypt, from thence into Europe, and after a long interval new colonies invaded Greece, and spread themselves over Europe from Scythia: That the miserable inhabitants of the northern parts of Asia afterwards emigrated to the adjoining continent of America, gradually, but thinly peopling that great district of the globe, which remained so long unknown to the rest of mankind:

That the progenitors of the African nations were established originally in Abyssinia, whose etymology, I am told, is *the Land of our Fathers*, a name given by the surrounding nations, and not assumed by the natives: That these aboriginal nations of Abyssinia were thrust out by new colonies from Egypt, and passing into various regions of Africa, acquired complexions more or less black according to their situation, and the torrid influence of the sun:

That Carthage and the other maritime states of Africa having been conquered by the Romans or Macedonians, before they could extend their dominion over the internal states of the African continent, the African hordes were suffered to continue in that barbarous and depredatory state which attends a wide range of country, and which is seldom, if ever, terminated but by external conquest: That the powers of the Africans have been destroyed or kept dormant by the influence of despotism and superstition, causes which are sufficient to keep mankind in everlasting infamy and misery, and which, but for the conquest of Europe by the Goths, &c. would probably have retained the wretched nations of our continent in a situation similar to that in which Africa still unfortunately exists: That that custom of selling prisoners taken in war, or making slaves of them at home, is incident to all barbarous nations, and continued in Europe till within a few centuries past; and, finally, that the energies now working over the whole world by the diffusion of knowledge, facilitated by navigation, and secured by printing and the organization of society, must soon bring Africa into play, and produce a new spectacle on the planet of *all its parts being connected in the hands of social intercourse.*

I am led to make these remarks by having accidentally discovered, in arranging my old letters, one from an eminent physician in Jamaica, which contains several particulars relating to the internal nations of Negroland in Africa, that seems so curious as to induce me to transcribe a few passages from it, for the entertainment of your readers, and to furnish matter for political reflection.

Kingston in Jamaica, April 2, 1766.

“Although the mind is elevated by events of great importance in civilized nations, it is nevertheless delighted to behold the efforts of infant states emerging

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from barbarity towards humanity and civilization; and though the generosity and virtues of untamed men are rough and tainted with blemishes, yet to the refined and contemplative mind, they must ever be subjects of agreeable reflection, or pleasing curiosity.

"For these reasons, I shall freely impart to you a piece of news from Africa, which has lately come to this island with sufficient authority. "Among the jetty inhabitants of the Gold coast, the Pantyne tribe, or nation which possesses an extensive district on the coast, has been hitherto reckoned the most powerful, and successful in war. But the Aschantees, who live far up in the interior part of the continent, having been prevented selling their prisoners taken in war by the nations on the coast, who had a sufficient number to supply the markets, and their late king, a peaceful man, having had the borders of his realms intruded on by the Warrees, who live between them and the Pantynes, his son, on his death, (a negro king of Prussia) determining to revenge the injury, has sworn that his father's body shall not be laid in the earth till he has conquered all the nations between him and the sea, and thrown into it his victorious Faulchion.

"In consequence of this vow, he has embalmed his father's body, and with an army of thirty thousand men, has attacked, and entirely subdued the nations of Warree, Akim, and Axim, and now has pitched his tent in the Pantyne country, within seven miles of the sea-shore. Victorious wherever he moves, he plays the Alexander, and, like Julius Cæsar, he carries along with him a number of peamen who write the Arabic language, and set down, every night, his daily transactions. All the European settlers on the coast are impatient to receive him, and strive who shall most encourage and caress him.

"It is expected, that as the Pantynes have guarded strongly all the passes of the ridge of mountains that separate the flat maritime provinces from the interior

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country, he will move along on the levels of the War-
rée country, and make his depredations there, in
hopes of which the commissioners and agents of the
European Forts and settlements are gone thitherward,
and are now preparing to erect some forts in that
country, that they may treat with the king in safety,
for slaves."—Thus far the commentaries of my corres-
pondent on the African wars, which clearly evince
that the barbarous traffic of Europe for slaves, is the
sole cause of the miseries of Africa, and that its con-
tinuance must prevent the civilization of that great
continent.

I have read a great deal on both sides of the argu-
ment concerning the slave trade; but without the
smallest impression having been made upon me by the
reasonings of merchants, or planters. And it is clear-
ly, and determinately my opinion, that the traffic is
not only inhuman, but impolitic. That if sugar and
indigo cannot be obtained without cruelty and injus-
tice, they ought to be given up, or cultivated and
manufactured by those who are to receive the benefit
of their labour and industry.

That notwithstanding the hard hearted, and hard
headed doctrines of profligate philosophers, it is to
be believed, that no truth can be more thoroughly
established either by theology, ethics, or experience,
than "that there exists in the æconomy and course of
nature, an indissoluble union between justice and hap-
piness; between the genuine maxims of an honest,
virtuous, and magnanimous people, and the solid re-
wards of public prosperity and happiness;" and that
we ought to be persuaded, *That the propitious smiles of
heaven can never be expected on a nation that disregards
the eternal rules of humanity, justice, order, and right,
which heaven itself has universally ordained.*

I am Sir, your humble servant,

S. A.

Dec. 22,

1791.

Disquisitions concerning the temporary Suspension of the active Functions of animate Objects.

For the Editor of the Bee.

SIR,

CERTAIN plants and trees drop their leaves in autumn, and several species of animals remain in a torpid state during winter. Both these phenomena are usually supposed to be occasioned merely by the coldness that occurs during that season; yet there are reasons to suspect that this periodical change depends, in some measure, on the natural oeconomy of these organised bodies, or on some circumstances that are only incidentally connected with cold, and may in some measure, in certain cases, be disjoined from it.

Mr Thunberg, the celebrated Swedish naturalist, took notice, when at the Cape of Good Hope, that many plants and trees which have been transported thither from Europe, regularly shed their leaves there in autumn, as they would have done in Europe, though the heat, at that season, at the Cape, be equal to that which is experienced in some parts of Europe long before the leaves of these trees begin to show any symptoms of decay.

In regard to animals, some experiments that have been lately made by Dr Pallas in Siberia, seem to prove the position above stated in a still more decisive manner.

The doctor kept a hedgehog in his apartment from December till the end of March, during which time the heat of the apartment, in which it lay, was seldom under 60 degrees, which is equal to our summer heat, yet the animal continued in a torpid state, and took no food, except once or twice, when it was placed be-

hind the stove, in a heat from 77 to 80 degrees; when, roused by that extraordinary heat, it did indeed awake, took a few turns round the room, and eat a few morsels, but soon lay down again, and fell into its torpid state.

On the other hand, a tame marmotte, which had become extremely fat during summer, in the professor's house, continued awake during the whole winter, although it was exposed to the same cold which threw all the rest of the species into their torpid state; nor was the doctor able to render this particular marmotte torpid, even with the assistance of the ice cellar, wherein he sometimes confined it several days.

From these facts, it seems reasonable to conclude, that it is not the operation of cold alone that produces these changes on animate objects. Before that cold can induce this temporary suspension of some of the most remarkable functions of life, the organs must be predisposed to receive that impression by some preparatory process that we are not yet in a condition to explain. Dr Pallas supposes, that, with regard to animals, the body requires to be prepared for falling into the torpid state by a gradual deficiency of nourishment, about the beginning of winter; but this hypothesis does not seem to be altogether free from objections. Many of the animals which fall into this torpid state provide stores of food, and are rendered torpid while they yet have abundance remaining; and almost all the animals of this description are in the fattest state they ever experience at the period they fall asleep. They are all comparatively leaner when they recover life in the spring. Were it not from the single experiment of the tame marmotte above stated, which Dr Pallas says had become extremely fat during the summer, it would seem more natural to suppose that the body should be prepared for that torpid state by a surcharge, rather than by a deficiency of sustenance.

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More accurate observations are here wanted before any general conclusion can be drawn.

Might it not be as natural to suppose, that the economy of the tame marmotte had been deranged in consequence of its having been sustained by food that was not naturally adapted to its constitution, and that in consequence of that derangement, it could not be made to undergo its natural changes, as that this effect was produced merely by the abundance of the sustenance it had received, and the degree of fatness that had occasioned?

The bee is the only animal I recollect which falls into a torpid state, that may be said, in one sense, to have been domesticated by man. Upon the supposition that cold alone produced that torpor, and that heat to a certain degree dissolved it, certain rules for the management of bees have been devised, with apparent probability of success. I wish to know if any experiments have been made to ascertain the facts respecting this industrious animal. With that view, I will be much obliged to any of your readers for a solution to the following queries:

1st, Do bees invariably fall into a torpid state when they are made to experience a certain degree of cold, and recover life again when they are subjected to a certain degree of heat? If so, what is the degree of cold that renders them inanimate, and the degree of heat that revives them?

2^d, Is any degree of cold capable of depriving the bee of life irrecoverably, after it has been thrown into its torpid state, in masses, as in a hive, and what is it?

3^d, Do bees, in the torrid zone, ever fall into the torpid state? If so, what is the degree of cold they must be made there to experience before they undergo this change?

4th, It appears, from the travels of Mr Pages, that in the Bissayan isles there are many bees, and great abundance of honey. Are the bees which hang their nests upon the branches of the trees, of the same species

with those of Europe? If different, wherein does that difference consist? or in what respect does the honey, or the wax, differ from ours?

An answer to these queries, will much oblige

A Young Observer.

On Swearing.

To the Editor of the Bee.

SIR,

I HAVE read with much pleasure, and I think also with considerable profit, your useful paper, which, pardon me, for I have no intention to flatter, improves still by acquaintance. There is one thing, however, which I do not recollect that you have taken any notice of: it is, the unmanly vice of swearing; which, though now very unfashionable, is nevertheless kept up by some men who are otherwise of valuable dispositions, and in some respects, both useful and ornamental members of society. I confess I am led into this train of reflection by some of my best friends being notoriously addicted to—I know not what to call it, perhaps a want of thought will best express my idea; and indeed to this we may chiefly attribute most of the vices of mankind; for, whatever the peevish misanthrope may advance, human nature is not so bad at the bottom, but sober reason, and calm reflection, if summoned up to her assistance in due time, will, in general, be found very sufficient to counteract all the foreign stimuli of immorality or vice; and it requires, one would suppose, very little thought, and such as the lowest capacity could at any time bestow, to perceive not only the meanness but the absurdity of profane swearing; yet so strong is the power of habit, that there are men, who though they discover no flagrant deficiency of intellect, except in the use of oaths, will shake you very cordially by the hand, and wish your Maker to damn you, how d'ye do!!! Yes, indeed, Sir, *quaque ipse*

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ON SWEARING.

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miserrima vidi, et quorum pars magna fui: This salutation I have oftener received from some of my friends than any other. I am neither, Sir, a clergyman, nor pedagogue, or all this might be supposed to be enough in character: neither can I think I am the canting hypocrite I have once or twice been called, when I have ventured to find fault with this mode of diction, but my flesh creeps (excuse my provincial dialect) when I am under the necessity of spending any time with people of this description; and as some of them take in your Bee, I have thought of preferring my complaint through its channel, trusting that, if you do not think proper to use my language, you will tell them in your own, that profane swearing has no connection at all with language, but is a distorted feature of speech, which the ignorant make use of to give themselves consequence; and that it as clearly discovers a shallow head, as cruelty evinces cowardice, or the taking pleasure in giving pain testifies a rotten heart. I am,

Your humble servant,

Western Caledonia,
12 October 1791.

AGRESTIS.

To the Editor of the Bee.

SIR,

I OBSERVE, with pleasure, the varied fund of instruction and entertainment, furnished weekly to the public by your small pamphlet. The politician, the naturalist, the biographer, the historian, the manufacturer, the poet, and the philosopher in general find, each in his respective line, something now and then appear that attracts their attention, and awakens their observation; and the mere men of the world, such as I, while they are amused, for a quarter of an hour's interval, at any time, from business, or pleasure, with remarking the pleasing manner in which the affairs of society move on, and the happiness that results from

the great refinement of the ideas and practices of men in their different vocations, that exists in this age, (an happy age when put in comparison with those that have preceded it,) have an opportunity of communicating to the public, any observation occurring to them that may appear to be of importance. When I reflect on these things, and the encouragement which well-meaning persons meet with from you, in laying their ideas before the public, I am induced to request the favour of you to solicit the information of some of your correspondents versant in the politics of legislation (if I may be allowed the expression,) with regard to the two following circumstances, which I do not understand.

1st, No person who is not a *rectifier* of British spirits can deal in such spirits by wholesale, because, by the law, he is not allowed to grant a permit for any British aquavite, except it be rectified by himself.

What is the use of the law? Why may not people trade in that article as in any other?

2^d, When foreign goods have been imported, the duty paid for them, and the proprietor wishes to re-export them, he is, in most cases, entitled to a drawback of nearly all the duty that was paid on importation, and of course, it would be for the profit of the revenue if he were to export them without receiving the drawback; yet if these goods are to be transported from one part of the kingdom to another, the proprietor must give bond in a great amount, that they are not to be exported but retained within this island.

What is the use of this regulation?

3^d, When corn might be exported on the bounty, it cannot be permitted to be sent from one part of the coast to another, without entry at the customhouse, and bond given, being under high penalties that it shall not be exported. Is not this regulation, if not illegal, absurd and oppressive?

I am your reader,

Leith, Dec.

1791.

JOHN SIMPLETON.

*On the Improvements of the Highlands. Continued
from p. 208.*

ONE other article would, for some time, require to be attended to, *viz.* to take care that a supply of such articles of cloathing, coats, and other necessaries that are wanted, should be found at a reasonable price. When any considerable number of settlers were established, these would be provided by rival shopkeepers, who would naturally undersell each other, as much as they safely could, for the sake of obtaining customers; but, at the beginning, the demand would be so small as scarce to find bread for competitors. In that case, enquiry should, from time to time, be made, as to the selling price of the most necessary articles; and if they were found to be extravagantly high, the dealers should be privately admonished; but the best way to check that, is to establish some periodical fairs, at which the inhabitants will find means to furnish themselves with the most necessary articles. The important article salt will require a separate discussion; yet one particular deserves farther to be adverted to, and an important one it is, *viz.* to provide a market for the articles these settlers shall have to *sell*, as well as to furnish the articles they want to *buy*; on this head, it is to be hoped, if the measures in contemplation be adopted, it will leave little to be wished for by Lady S-----d; as, in that case, a free intercourse will be established along all that coast, which will prove of infinite benefit to every establishment of the kind here proposed. It is unnecessary, therefore, now to say more on this head, till it be known what measures shall be adopted; this head will require farther elucidations. To excite a spirit of industry among the people in these towns; and to give room for a laudable ambition among the females, Lady S-----d would find much satisfaction in appropriating a small sum

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of money, to be distributed annually in premiums, to the most industrious of her people. But on this head, as being of inferior importance, it is unnecessary to enlarge.

Dr A----- considers the above, as the only rational and practicable way of promoting the improvement of her Ladyship's estate, with regard to agriculture. Having thus provided an asylum for all her poor people, where they may have room to exercise their industry, with profit to themselves, and live in perfect freedom; she needs then be under no restraint, in adopting whatever measures may seem necessary for the internal prosperity of her estate. Her aim, *then for Dr A----- begs leave to observe, that it is only after such an establishment has been made as is above recommended, that the measures he is now about to propose, could with safety be adopted,* should be, to parcel out her estate into large farms. The servitude of the subtenants on these farms, which is now, in many cases, very grievous, could not then be oppressive; as these distressed people could at pleasure move to the town. As the greatest part of that country is well calculated for sheep-farms, south country shepherds should then be invited to take farms there; and, that many of them may come, they should get good bargains at the beginning. One or two farmers on an estate, becoming rich upon it, is an infinite advantage to the proprietor: These rich men take more land themselves, and stock it fully; and are really able to pay with ease, much more rent than it would ever be possible to get from poor people. In hopes of sharing in their wealth, more people of the same kind will come to that neighbourhood: The rents will rise by the competition of tenants; and the proprietor will have the happiness to see the prosperity of her people, and the increase of rent, go forward in the same state of progression.

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This change, I am to suppose, is gradual. In consequence of it, the *poor* people would be first removed from their present habitations; as it would soon be found that the south country farmer had no occasion for them, and that they were only to him useless cumberers of the soil. The present tacksmen, finding themselves sinking into a secondary order in the country, would gradually come to dislike it, and would then also retire to the town: nor would they be long there, till they would find that the money they carried with them, could be laid out with much more advantage to themselves than formerly, in promoting the fisheries, and trade, of the places to which they had retired. They would become owners of boats and other fishing vessels; they would buy salt and stores of different kinds; and would gradually engage in export trade; they would become rich and alert in business; and the prosperity of the place would then become certain, without requiring the superintending care of any one.

As the wealth of the town increased, the prosperity of the country would be augmented: A market would be thus found for many of its productions, which are not wanted at present. For furnishing these, encroachments would come to be gradually made on the sheep-farms. Grass and hay, and corn, and potatoes, and turnips and greens, with innumerable other articles, would be called for, and such a price held out for them, as would ensure the production of these articles; so that the value of land around that place, would rise to an astonishing degree. Wool would probably become there very cheap; which would tempt the people of fortune to think of applying some part of their stock to that and other manufactures; and this would furnish employment to many women and children, who could not be so conveniently engaged in the fishing. Coarse, low-priced, warm cloths, would find a ready sale among

the inhabitants of the town, which would foster and support the infant manufacture. Roads would be formed for bringing articles from the country to market. Where falls of water offer convenience for manufacturing, machinery manufactures would be at length established. The people who had originally left the country for want of employment, would now return to it to carry on their business with profit; and a superabundance of people would drive the sheep to their hills, and leave the habitable plains to be occupied by industrious men.

Such are the gradual steps by which Dr A----- thinks the prosperity of lady S-----'s estate may be with certainty established. At the beginning, caution, patience, and moderation are required; but, above all, a steady, decided, and obvious benevolence of disposition, and disinterestedness of conduct, is indispensably necessary. Slow must the progress be at first; and not a little difficult will it be to set all the wheels in motion, so as to produce no jarring dissonance. When once set a-going, it will go on of itself without care; and the progression will be every day more rapid, and the efforts of industry more powerful. Her ladyship has the satisfaction to be so young, as to give her room to hope that she may live to see that country raised to a degree of prosperity, which the most sanguine imagination, at present, would not dare to represent. Dr A----- most sincerely wishes her all manner of success; and will feel no small degree of satisfaction, if he shall see cause to believe, that these remarks may have, accidentally, helped to promote so desirable an end.

That the futility of another mode of conduct may be seen, Dr A----- uses the freedom to inclose a printed set of regulations, originating from principles, very much the reverse of those he has endeavoured to recommend, with this single remark upon them: That

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after having been tried for many years, and after innumerable exertions on the part of the proprietor, and his agents, and infinite vexations and disturbance to the tenants, the proprietor has found it necessary to abandon all his favourite plans; as he has never yet, either by threats or allurements, been able to carry into effect any one of those improvements he wished so anxiously to promote; and indeed he might as soon have expected to raise pine apples on the top of the bleakest mountains he possesses, as to enforce them. Dr A----- has known innumerable instances of the same sort; and is therefore anxious to prevent Lady S----- from attempting such a Symplicean labour. As the paper was only entrusted to him, for a short time, he begs it may be returned.

Thus far extends the original paper. Several particulars that affect the prosperity of the people in these countries, shall be taken notice of in a future number.

Of the enormous Bones found in America.

BETWEEN thirty and forty years ago, at a salt lick near the banks of the Ohio, the remains of several skeletons were discovered, which demonstrate the former existence of animals, very far surpassing in size any at present known. There is now in the museum at Yale college, teeth of a monstrous magnitude, sent thither from *Muskingum* by the late General Parsons. The one, which the writer of this account saw, was upwards of fifteen inches in circumference, and, including its fangs, twelve or thirteen inches in length.

In the year 1783, as a labourer was ditching a bog-meadow, belonging to a clergyman at Little Breton,

in Ulster county, he found a mass of bones, not two feet beneath the surface of the ground, of the same kind, probably, with those observed at the Ohio; they were of a black colour, but very hard, and the shape perfect. A German physician, then with the army at New-York, just before its departure, procured and took them all to Europe. Gentlemen of the first character in this country saw them, and declare that they were astonishingly large. The thigh bone in particular, a gentleman measured, and found it thirty-five inches in circumference.

It is impossible to arrive at the knowledge of the magnitude of an animal, from an imperfect skeleton; but no one can hesitate supposing, that the most gigantic quadrupeds at present known, are mere pigmies, compared to some of the former tenants of our western world; but of these, perhaps, nothing more will ever be discovered, than the memorials above related, and the following tradition existing among the natives. It is given in the very terms of a Shawansee Indian, to shew that the impression has been most forcible.

"Ten thousand moons ago, when nought but gloomy forests covered this land of the sleeping sun; long before pale men, with thunder and fire at their command, rushed on the wings of the wind to ruin this garden of nature; when nought but the untamed wanderers of the woods, and men, as unrestrained as they, were the lords of the soil; a race of animals were in being, huge as the frowning precipice, cruel as the bloody panther, swift as the descending eagle, and terrible as the angel of night. The pines crashed beneath their feet, and the lake shrunk when they slaked their thirst; the forceful javelin in vain was hurled, and the barbed arrow fell harmless from their side. Forests were laid waste at a meal, the groans of expiring animals, were every where heard; and

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whole villages inhabited by men, were destroyed in a moment. The cry of universal distress extended even to the region of peace in the West, and the good spirit interposed to save the unhappy. The forked lightning gleamed all around, and loudest thunder rocked the globe. The bolts of heaven were hurled upon the cruel destroyers alone, and the mountains echoed with the bellowings of death. All were killed except one male, the fiercest of the race, and him, even the artillery of the sky assailed in vain. He ascended the highest summit which shades the source of the *Monongabela*, and, roaring aloud, bid defiance to every vengeance. The red lightning scorched the lofty firs, and rived the knotty oaks, but only glanced upon the enraged monster. At length, maddened with fury, he leaped over the waves of the west at a bound, and this moment reigns the uncontrouled monarch of the wilderness, in despite of even Omnipotence itself."

To the Editor of the Bee.

SIR,

Aberdeen, November 1791.

I AM a constant reader of the *Bee*, and very much admire the variety, as well as the selection of matter it contains; among others, the *Travelling Memorandums* are not only amusing, but may be useful.

I am not a traveller, but I employ a considerable part of my time in reading; and it has been my constant practice, to make written notes of any sentiment or expression, that appears to me worth preserving; I call those *Reading Memorandums*; and if you approve of the subjoined specimen, I may probably take the liberty of continuing our correspondent in that stile, as I will certainly continue

Your constant Reader.

Reading Memorandums.

There is a *dignity* in distress, which will often sooner suffer in silence, than implore relief.

Virtue, rejoice! tho' heaven may frown a while,
That frown is but the earnest of a smile.

Why should we despise those whose faith leads them to think differently from ourselves: Every good christian has the same point in view; therefore the path by which they pursue it, must be very immaterial.

The dominion of *fashion* is established upon a basis that it will be for ever out of our power, or attempts, to shake; it is settled upon the strongest and most stable foundation; upon the weakness and folly of mankind; a bulwark, that will, to the end of time, rise superior to all its adversaries!

Something present, or something future, gives us continual subject for our *hopes* and *fears*. Thus it is—thus it ever will be, with poor mortals! a strong proof that this world is not the completion of our happiness.

I cannot pay a compliment to any lady upon whimsical ornament; for to me all superfluous ornaments take from the beauty of the human form.

Be satisfied with the pleasing simplicity, and enchanting manners of the middling ranks of life; so very different from those of the high bred and imperious Amazons of quality, or the awkward pretensions of commercial wealth, and foreign plunder among city Misses.

[To be concluded in our next.]

For the Bee.

INVITATION.

Written to a Lady in Winter.

Now hoary Winter, with resistless pow'r,
 Clasps shiv'ring nature in his aged arms,
 The meads disrob'd of every plant and flower,
 With gloomy aspect mourn their ravish'd charms.

The tow'ring elms which grace yon mountain's brow,
 Bend to the wild winds o'er the threat'ning steep;
 White wave the woods beneath involving snow,
 And in their coves the frozen Naiads sleep.

The chrystal brooks, with icy fetters bound,
 No more, soft murm'ring, sooth the pains of love,
 Nor mossy banks, with verdant poplars crown'd,
 Invite Menalcas to the tuneful grove.

Yet wiser *Thee*, my tranquil thoughts approve,
 Tho' void of every gay alluring grace,
 O'er thy dread scenes my fancy joys to rove,
 And the wild ruins of thy reign to trace.

Thus, though the warblers of the vernal year
 Droop and cling lifeless to the naked spray;
 Yet the sweet red-breast deems thee not severe,
 But to the lone woods pours his cheerful lay.

Unchang'd, the pine and laurel rear their heads,
 The constant yew extends its welcome shade;
 The laughing flow'rs no more perfume the meads,
 No more the sun beams dance along the glade.

All hail! ye pleasures permanent and great,
 Which in the wreck of time and nature please,
 The kind companion, and the still retreat,
 Where all is virtue, harmony and ease.

Vol. VI.

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The social converse of a friend sincere,
Dispels the terrors of the darkest storm,
Delights when vernal beauties disappear,
And days ungenial the dull year deform.

Then, dear Amanda! blest my humble doom;
Sweet friendship's glow shall brighten ev'ry eye;
With thee shall mirth and gen'rous freedom come,
And anxious care at thy appearance fly.

Oh! how superior these domestic joys,
To what the world calls pleasure, pomp and state:
Where envy blasts not, nor distrust annoys,
Nor false dissemblers flatter those they hate.

To the Editor of the Bee.

SIR,

A NOTION having prevailed in Yorkshire, that there was no nightingales north of the river Swale in that county, the following beautiful little copy of verses was written by a clergyman, (now no more,) on hearing one sing at the village of Hurworth, near Darlington, and is at your service, if you chuse to insert it in your ingenious publication.

Off, for her injur'd callow nest;
Sad Philomela's tuneful breast
Had heav'd the tender thro' :
Each brood remov'd!—ungracious swain?
She saw, so fled the cruel plain,
And with the plain her woe.

Anxious to find some happier place,
Where, undisturb'd, her darling race,
Too rare! she might renew;
O'er spacious lawns and hollow glades,
And solitary sylvan shades,
Disconsolate she flew.

At length, to *Teefer* silver stream,
 Pensive, the little wand'rer came,
 Where Sol, with genial heats
 Informed, she felt the teeming earth,
 And Zephyrs mild, with rosy breath,
 Shed health-attemper'd sweets.

Teefer, she saw, with limpid wave
 Winding obsequious, gently lave
 His flower bespangled shores;
 Proud, in his ambient course, to hail
 The varied wonders of the vale!
 Cots, rocks, and rural bowers!

She listen'd—(from a thousand throats,
 Wildly were pour'd a thousand notes,
 Shrill warbled to the sky!
 Menalcas softly breath'd the reed,
 And *Teefer*, with reluctant speed,
 In chorus murmur'd by,)

And, wond'ring, sung:—"Delightful seat!
 "Be this my last, my safe retreat;
 "Here, my maternal tale
 "Rightly I'll chaunt in lavish strains,
 "And *Tempe's* less enchanting plains
 "Shall yield to *Hurworth's* vale."

Menzini's VIOLET and ROSE, attempted.

Let other bards the rose's charms proclaim,
 And praise the splendor of her beauty gay;
 While I assert the violet's fairer claim,
 To bear from ev'ry flow'r the palm away.

When to the gale she languidly displays
 Her pallid leaves along the verdant ground;
 That pallid hue a languid heart betrays,
 Made faint and feeble by love's ling'ring wound.

With rosy wreath let youth his temples bind,
While gay, he quaffs in pleasure's jocund bow'r;
But to the tender lover's pensive mind,
Shalt thou, fair violet, be the dearest flow'r.

ALEXIS.

For the Editor of the Bee.

On America.

The following paper, handed to the Editor, by a person for whom he has great respect, though it has been printed before, contains such a striking picture of the private life of a considerable part of the inhabitants of America, as cannot fail to prove interesting to all those readers who have not seen it. In a future number I shall give an account of some new settlers in Scotland, not less curious, and, I should suppose, more interesting still to the people of this country.

An account of the progress of Population, Agriculture, Government, in Pennsylvania, in a Letter from Dr Benjamin Rush, Professor of Chemistry in the College of Philadelphia, to Benjamin Vaughan, Esq; Merchant in London, with remarks.

SIR,

WHATEVER tends to unfold new facts, in the history of the human species, must be interesting to a curious and speculative mind.

The manner of settling a new country, exhibits a view of the human mind, so foreign to the views that have been taken of the subject for many centuries in Europe, that I flatter myself the following account of the progress of population, agriculture and government, in Pennsylvania, will meet with your candid reception.

I have chosen to confine myself, in the present letter, to Pennsylvania only, that all the information I shall give you, may be derived from my own knowledge and observation.

The first settler in the woods, is generally a man who has outlived his credit or fortune in the cultivated parts

Dec. 21.

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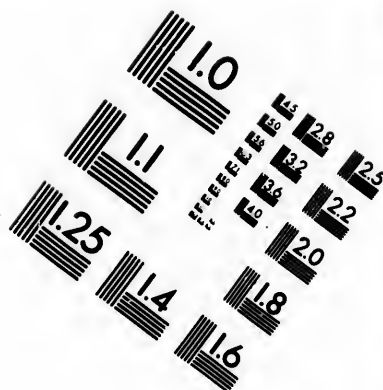
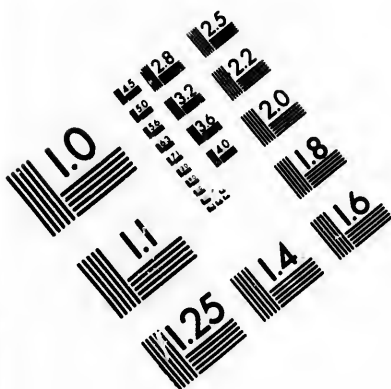
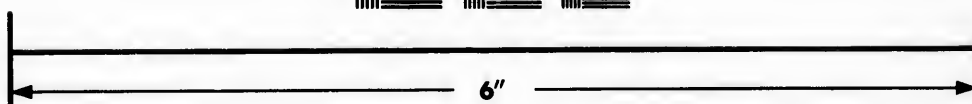
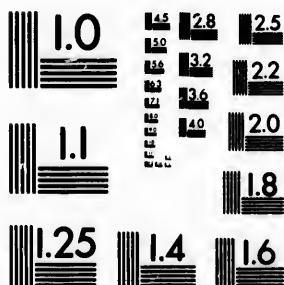


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of the state. His time for migrating, is in the month of April. His first object is, to build a small cabin of rough logs for himself and family. The floor of this cabin is of earth, the roof is of split logs. The light is received through the door; and, in some instances, through a small window made of greased or oiled paper. A coarser building, adjoining to this cabin, affords a shelter to a cow and a pair of very ordinary horses. The labour of erecting these buildings, is succeeded by killing the trees on a few acres of ground near his cabin. This is done by cutting a circle round the trees, two or three feet from the ground. The ground is then plowed, and Indian corn planted in it. The season for planting this grain, is about the 20th of May. It grows generally on new ground, with but little cultivation; and yields, in the month of October following, from forty to fifty bushels *per* acre. After the first of September, it affords a good deal of nourishment to his family, in its green state, or when unripe, by roasting the ears.

His family is fed, during the summer, by a small quantity of grain which he carries with him, and by fish and game. His cow and horses feed on wild grass or the succulent young shoots of the woods.

For the first year he endures a great deal of distress from hunger, cold, and a variety of accidents; but he seldom complains or sinks under it, acquiring, from the correspondence with the native Americans of the forest, a strong tincture of their manners. His exertions, while they continue, are violent; but are succeeded by long intervals of languor and indolence. His pleasures, consist chiefly in fishing and hunting. He is addicted, above all things, to the use of ardent spirits; eats, drinks, and sleeps, filthy and ragged, in his little hovel. In his intercourse with the world, he manifests all the arts which characterise the natives of America. In this state he continues two or three years.

In proportion as population increases around him, he becomes uneasy and dissatisfied. Formerly his cattle ranged at large; but now his neighbours call upon him to defend his property by fences, that they may not trespass upon his fields of grain. Formerly he fed his family

chiefly with game; but these now afford him a scanty supply; so that he is compelled to rear domestic animals for his support, and the nourishment of his family. He feels himself uneasy under the operation of laws. He cannot brook to surrender his natural rights, for the benefit of government. He wishes to be the avenger of his own injuries; he abandons, therefore, his little settlement, and seeks for another in the woods, where he repeats all the toils and troubles of his commencement. There are instances of men who have broke ground, in this way, not fewer than four times, with unabated perseverance.

It has been remarked, that the removal of these people has always been promoted by the preaching of the gospel; and this will not surprise us when we consider how opposite the precepts of the Christian religion are, to their manner of living. If our first settler was the owner of the spot of land where he began to cultivate, he sells it, before his removal, at a considerable profit, to his successor; but if (as is often the case) he was a tenant to some rich landholder, he abandons it in debt; but the improvement made, procures a new tenant for it immediately. This new tenant is generally a man of quite a different stamp, and has generally some property. He pays down one-third of the price for his plantation, which consists generally of 300 or 400 acres, and the residue of the price, he pays by installments. The first object of this farmer, is to build an additional cabin. This is done with hewed logs; and as saw-mills generally follow settlements, his floors are commonly laid with boards; his roof is composed of what are called *clap-boards*, which are a kind of coarse shingles, split out of short oak logs. This house has two stories; in each of which there are two rooms: The whole is as it were a cellar walled with stone. The cabin formerly made, serves as a kitchen to the new house. His next object is, to clear a little meadow-ground, and to plant an orchard of 200 or 300 apple-trees. He enlarges his stable; and in the course of a year or two, he erects a large log-barn, the roof of which is commonly thatched with rye-straw. He then increases the quantity of tillage-ground; and instead

of cultivating only Indian wheat, he raises a quantity of good wheat and rye; the latter of which is cultivated for the purpose of being distilled into whisky. This species of settler does not obtain the crops that might be expected; because he ploughs carelessly, and with weak cattle and bad implements, and that his crops are often wasted from the bad condition of his fences.

Having little spring food, likewise, for his horses, they often die famished, before the ensuing season of labour returns. His house, as well as his farm, bears many marks of a weak tone of mind; his windows are unglazed; or if they have had glass in them, the vacancies are supplied with old hats or pillows.

This species of settler is seldom a good member of civil or religious society. With a large portion of a mechanical kind of religion, he neglects to contribute any thing towards building a place of worship, or maintaining a pastor for performing the offices of religion in the ordinances of the gospel. He is equally indisposed to support civil government. With high ideas of freedom from restraint, or what he calls liberty, he refuses to bear his due proportion of public burdens. His chief delight is in news and company-keeping; for obtaining intelligence of that kind, he often drinks to excess, and will spend a day or two in hunting for a newspaper, that contains a political publication; and thus contracts debts, which, if they do not give him a place in the sheriff's docket, compel him to sell his plantation, generally in the course of a few years, to a third species of settler. This settler is commonly a man of property and good character. Sometimes he is the son of a wealthy farmer in one of the interior and ancient counties of the state. His first object is, to convert any spot of ground, over which he can spread and retire water at pleasure, into fertile meadow; and if this cannot be done, he selects the most fruitful spots on the farm, and devotes them, by manure, to a similar purpose for pasture. He next builds a good barn with stone. This building is sometimes an hundred feet in length, and forty in breadth. It is made very compact, so as to exclude the cold in winter; as the farmers

in our country find that their horses and cattle, when kept comfortably warm, do not require near so much food, as when they are exposed to the inclemency of the weather. His fences are now every where repaired, so as to secure his crops against trespass from his neighbours cattle. He increases the number of his articles of produce; and instead of raising only wheat and rye, he raises oats, buckwheat and spelts. Near his house, he allots an acre or two of ground, for a garden, in which he raises a large quantity of cabbage and potatoes. His newly cleared fields, afford him every year a large crop of turnip; over the fountain that supplies him with water, he builds a milk house; his sons work by his side, in the field or barn, all the year; and his wife and daughters forsake the dairy and the spinning wheel, when necessary, to share in the toil of the harvest. He likewise adds to the number and quality of his fruit trees, and extends his orchard.

The concluding object of his operations in building is, to erect a decent and comfortable dwelling house. This business he sometimes accomplishes, but oftener bequeaths the task to his son or successor.—Hence goes the common proverb, “A son should always begin where his father left off;” meaning, that he should begin his future improvements, by erecting a commodious dwelling, suited to the improvement and value of the plantation. This dwelling house is generally built of stone, large, convenient, and fitted up with useful and substantial furniture. Sometimes it adjoins to the house of the second settler, but more frequently at a little distance from it. The horses and cattle of this settler, bear marks, in their strength, fat and fruitfulness, of their being carefully and plentifully fed. His table abounds with a variety of the best provisions. He now feels the importance of good government, and becomes a good citizen, and patient of the execution of the laws; and punctually pays the taxes towards the support of the state. He contributes cheerfully to the support of the church, and the public school; and becomes an amiable and respectable member of the society. Of this last class of settlers, are two-thirds of the farmers of Pennsylvania. These are the men to whom the state owes her

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fame and consequence. If they possess less refinement than their southern neighbours, who cultivate their lands with slaves, they possess more republican virtue. It was from the farms cultivated by these men, that the American and French armies were raised and recruited, during the late war that produced the revolution; and it was from the produce of these farms, that those millions of dollars were obtained from the Havanna, after the year 1780, which laid the foundation of the bank of North America; and which fed and clothed the American army, till the glorious peace of Paris, after the annihilation of the paper money of the United States. This is a short account of the life, and happiness of a Penfylvanian farmer," &c.

As the Bee finds its way into the Highlands and remote parts of Scotland, and into several countries where a spirit of emigration to North America has taken place; the persusal and mature consideration of this description of hardship and difficulty of settlement, is recommended, that none may go across the Atlantic, with a view to ease; or make useless citizens to that thriving state, by going there without the qualities that are necessary for an infant country.

On the Sierra Leona Bill.

Proceedings respecting the Settlement of Sierra Leona.

A NUMBER of gentlemen who are friends to the abolition of the slave trade, having, in the course of their enquiries respecting that business, had occasion to remark the great fertility of some parts of Africa, the variety of useful articles it was naturally fitted to produce, and the ingenuity of many of the natives, who had chanced to come under their observation, naturally concluded, that if the vices in government, that the practice of the slave trade had there introduced, were effectually corrected, the people might be induced to adopt habits of industry, from

which might be derived a trade, highly advantageous to this country, infinitely beneficial to the people themselves, while it would, in the most effectual manner, prove friendly to the cause of humanity, and the natural rights of men, which have been so long and grievously outraged by the abominable traffic in human beings that had so long been tolerated on these coasts.

Influenced by these considerations, the administration of this country, to their honour be it spoken, lent a favourable ear to the proposals of these men. Instructions were given to the commanders of king's ships, on that nation, to co-operate with them in any plan that they should adopt for promoting these objects, that was evidently founded on the sure basis of equity and justice. In consequence of these instructions, the agents employed by these gentlemen on the coast of Africa, having found a small district, called *Sierra Leona*, bounded and intersected by navigable rivers, well calculated for trade, of a fertile soil, and enjoying a good climate, enquired at the native princes, to whom it belonged, if they were willing to sell that district to the King of Great Britain, for the purpose of carrying on a friendly traffic in articles that were of the natural produce or manufacture of the country, without intermeddling in any degree in the slave trade. These princes, persuaded of the benefits they might derive from such a friendly intercourse, and sensible of the accumulated evils that flow from the slave trade, acceded to the proposal with joy. They were then told, that before any other steps could be taken in this business, a public vendition of the territory must be made, in presence of all the princes having any interest in that territory, and such of their people as chose to attend, that no possibility might remain of alleging that any fraud or circumvention had taken place. They were, therefore, all summoned to meet the agents of the King of Great Britain, at a certain place, on a day specified for this purpose. When met, the limits of the settlement proposed were distinctly specified and ascertained, being a square patch, nearly twenty miles long, and of an equal breadth; being bounded on the one hand by the river Caramanca,

and on the other by the river Sierra Leona, and on the east by the Bunce river.

These limits being thus ascertained, and distinctly understood, and the property of every part of it as it then stood, having been clearly ascertained, by mutual acknowledgements of all the parties present, each individual proprietor was severally asked if he was willing to sell his share of that property, for the purposes aforesaid; and all having answered in the affirmative, they were again severally asked what price they would accept for the same? Their demands being severally heard, and a bargain having been separately made with each, the goods stipulated for as the price, were produced, and given to the several parties concerned, in presence of all the people; and a deed of sale being made out in due form, was signed by the whole proprietors of that district, on the one part, and by the captain of the king's ship, as agent for the King of Great Britain, on the other part; and all was concluded with the utmost harmony. This deed of sale is now lodged in the archives of the Treasury Office, for perpetual preservation.

In the above deed of vendition, the territory only, as it then stood, was sold; but no part of the people who inhabited it. These were left at freedom to remain upon it, if they pleased to submit to such form of government as the King of Great Britain should establish in that district; or to be at freedom to remove themselves and effects from it, if they so inclined. These terms were explained to the people, in presence of their chiefs, so that no doubt could remain in their minds, with regard to the nature of this transaction, and all were content.

The King having thus obtained this property, the next business that the friends of freedom undertook was, to digest a plan, to the satisfaction of administration, for establishing a joint stock company, for the space of thirty years, for the purpose of carrying these beneficent views into execution. This being also done, it became necessary for His Majesty to obtain the sanction of Parliament, to grant to this Company, by charter, the use of this territory for thirty years, for the purposes aforesaid. Ac-

cordingly, on Monday, the 28th March, Mr Thornton moved for leave to bring in a bill, for the purpose of enabling His Majesty to grant a charter to certain persons therein named, for the purpose of making a settlement at Sierra Leona, on the coast of Africa, and carrying on a trade to the internal parts of Africa, under certain restrictions, &c. which was granted.

By this bill, His Majesty was empowered to grant, to a joint stock company, full possession of a certain district, called *Sierra Leona*, on the coast of Africa, for the purpose of carrying on trade with the natives, for the space of thirty years; but they are particularly excluded from ever purchasing slaves, under the penalty of forfeiture of their charter. The members of that Company are empowered to elect a governor and deputy-governor, and other officers, for themselves; and to make such by-laws, or particular regulations, as they shall find necessary; but they are not authorised to undertake any wars, for the sake of conquest, or extension of territory; but merely for self-defence, if they shall be attacked by any inimical power.

Though several petitions were presented against this bill, during its progress through the House; and though counsel was heard against it at the bar, yet it met with no opposition in the House, till Monday the 30th of May, at the third reading of the bill, when

Mr Cawthorne rose, and in a speech of some length opposed it, upon the grounds, that he doubted if any grant of territory, acquired by His Majesty as this had been, could be deemed legal; he also alleged, that it might become a monopoly, extremely inconvenient to other traders on the coast. He conceived that something insidious was intended, and that more was meant than had been explained, and therefore he opposed it.

Lord Sheffield also objected to it, on the ground that it went to establish a colony, and this nation had already too great a number of colonies. The bill, he said, pretended a trade with the interior parts of Africa; yet Sierra Leona was upon the coast, and the river was not navigable for small boats, even the length of fifty miles.

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ON THE SIERRA LEONA BILL.

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He thought the bill not explicit enough as to its objects; and some of its clauses appeared to be contradictory.

Mr H. Thornton answered. No monopoly of trade, he said, was intended. After the establishment of the Company, British subjects, in general, would be just as much at liberty to trade to Sierra Leona, to wood, and to water, and to resit there, as they are at present. He remarked that those who opposed this establishment, as a monopoly, did it only to preserve another. The West India merchants had opposed the bill on this ground, that if the new Company should turn their attention to the rearing of sugar, it might interfere with their monopoly of that article in the West Indies. It was not easy for those who began a business, of the nature here proposed, to state *precisely* what the circumstances they were not yet sufficiently acquainted with, might render expedient for them; this was the reason of that want of absolute precision of which they complained. He remarked, that all parties had agreed in deploring the ignorance and barbarity of the African nations; and had held this circumstance up to view, as the chief reason of their wishing to continue the slave trade, that the oppressed natives might thus be wrested from the merciless gripe of their cruel owners. On their own grounds, therefore, they ought to support the present bill, which had, for its principal object, the civilization, and humanizing these merciless barbarians. The planters also maintained, that sugar could not be reared without negroes, and not even by negroes, if they were not slaves; but as the proposed Company were absolutely precluded from having any slaves, it ought to follow, that if the planters truly spoke their sentiments, they could be under no apprehensions of being rivalled, in the cultivation of sugar, by this Company. These contradictory grounds of opposition clearly showed, that there was no just foundation for the apprehensions they had expressed.

Mr Cavendish explained.

Sir William Young approved of the bill; and shewed, that in so doing, he was consistent with the conduct he had adopted with respect to the slave business. He com-

plained that his sentiments had been misrepresented elsewhere; alluding to the resolutions of the West India merchants, out of that House.

Mr Buxton, in a warm and animated speech, strongly regretted that indisposition had prevented him from giving, on a former day, his most decided opposition to the slave trade. He highly approved of the present bill; as by it, he trusted, would be laid a foundation, for effectually abolishing that most miserable trade, by introducing peace and civilization among the hitherto hostile tribes in Africa.

Mr Burrard concurred in opinion with the last speaker.

Mr Stanley (attorney-general for the Leeward Islands, and agent for Nevis) objected to the bill. He complained that gentlemen used such harsh language, with respect to those who favoured the slave trade; he vindicated the character of the planters from the imputations thrown out against them; maintained the importation of slaves was absolutely necessary for the existence of the West India islands; he asserted his own claim to philanthropy; and, at length, passing to the subject of the present bill, he doubted of the legality of the title the King claimed, to grant any right to the territory in question.

Mr John Thomas Stanley spoke in favour of the bill.

Mr Montague strenuously supported the bill.

The friends of the slave trade had pretended, that Africa could not be cultivated; yet they now took the alarm when it was proposed, only to attempt to cultivate a very small patch of that extensive, barren region, as they called it.

Mr Thornton said, that he was happy to support the bill brought in by his Honourable relation; because it was calculated to relieve the miserable Africans, by opening a door to a more honourable and profitable trade than that by slaves.

Mr Alderman Watson denied that the West India merchants had opposed the bill. The merchants, he believed, were not against the passing of the bill, the principle of which was the cultivation of mankind, and to find a vent for our manufactures; both of them laudable objects. He

was one of those who thought that Africa could not be cultivated; but if there were men adventurous enough to undertake it, why prevent them from trying the experiment? He should therefore vote for the bill.

Mr Hippley said, the experiment had already been made without success. He said he had been upon the coast, and represented it as altogether unfit for cultivation.

Mr Devaynes gave a very different account of the country; from his own knowledge, he could say it was one of the finest countries of the world for cultivation. Cotton could be raised with great facility; coffee was already produced there in great perfection; sugar grows naturally, and can now be bought from the negroes for *two pence half-penny* the pound.

Here the question being loudly called for, and the House divided on the motion, "That this bill be now read a third time," when there appeared,

Ayes 87,—Noes 9; majority in favour of the bill 78.

The bill was then read a third time, and passed without farther opposition.

Nor did it afterwards meet with any opposition in the House of Peers, where it was finally passed on Friday the 3d June, without any amendment.

A farther account of the proceedings of the Sierra Leone Company will be given in our next.

REMARKS

ON THE

BRITISH DRAMA.

Continued from p. 144. Vol. V.

THE INTRIGUING CHAMBERMAID—By *Fielding*.

THE part of *Trick* is, as usual, *outré*; yet the singular queernefs of a *Clive*, made it laughable to an audience guided more by the performance of actors, than the merit of plays. The other parts of this piece are so flat, that no art or grimace of acting can enliven, or make them entertaining to any audience.

POLLY HONEYCOMB—*By Colmán.*

THIS Polly is a sad slut. The whole is very bad as usual. Affecting natural character and conversation, the writer falls into mere flatness and insipidity. What inundations of nonsense are discharged upon this unfortunate country, in the shape of prologues and farces, &c.!

THE BRAVE IRISHMAN—*By Sheridan.*

HERE is a most wretched attempt to imitate, or rather transform Moliere's play of Monsieur Pourceaugnac. It is an affront on common sense to publish such trumpery as *esteemed pieces*. And bad as my opinion is of London taste, I can hardly think this "Brave Irishman" could escape damnation the first night.

THE AUTHOR—*By Foote.*

THERE is here the best modern prologue which I have seen. Foote has a visible superiority, when he chuses to exert it, over the herd in this Collection, in his formation of character, in humour, and in ease and propriety of expression. Intermixed with this merit, there is a good deal of ludicrous outré, intended, as I suppose, to suit the prevailing taste of the multitude who fill the houses, and are best diverted with mere grimace.

THE KING AND THE MILLER OF MANSFIELD—*By Dodgley.*

THERE is a very good meaning, and something pleasing in this piece. The design and plot of it are worthy even of a Shakespeare's genius. His execution would have been precious indeed. But *quantum mutatis*!

THE FADLOCK—*By Bickerstaff.*

POOR enough. Yet there are worse things in this Collection of "the most esteemed Farces."

THE PLAIN DEALER—*Altered from Wycherly.*

THE dramatic talent of this age has been chiefly employed in bungling good old plays, on pretence of amending them, and this is a notable instance of it.

[To be continued.]

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THE BEE,

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

WEDNESDAY, December 28, 1791.

To the Editor of the Bee.

GLEANINGS OF BIOGRAPHY.

Memorandums of Thomson the Poet and his Associates, communicated by Mr. Robertson of Richmond in Surrey, late Surgeon to the Household at Kew, October 17th, 1791.

* Minutula tamen sunt, quæ si non hunc, alium scire juvet.

Quere. HAVE you any objections, Sir, to my taking down memorandums to a conversation.

Answer. Not in the least. I will procure you pen, ink, and paper immediately.

Q. I understand, Sir, you knew Thomson long.

A. I became acquainted with him in the year 1726, when he published his poem of winter. He lived opposite to me in Lancaster court in the Strand. I went to the East Indies soon after, which caused a chasm in our acquaintance; but on my return, our intimacy was strengthened, and continued to the hour of

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N n

his death. I do not know any man, living or dead, I ever esteemed more highly, and he was attached to me. I had once a complaint of a consumptive nature, which confined me much at home, and he was so good as to come from Kew-lane to sit with me.

Q. Did you know Amanda? A. know her.—Yes, Sir, —I married her sister. Amanda was a Miss Young, daughter of captain Gilbert Young, of the Gulyhill family in Dumfries-shire, and was married afterwards to Admiral Campbell. She was a fine sensible woman; and poor Thomson was desperately in love with her. Mr. Gilbert Young, her nephew, left my house this very morning. Thomson indeed was never wealthy enough to marry.

Q. His circumstances were said to have been in a flourishing way at the latter period of his life?

A. Sir,—his circumstances never were very good, and would have been much worse, I believe, without my friendly interference.

Q. He was governed by the "Vis inertia," I think, to a great degree?

A. He was, Sir.

Q. Mr. Collins, the brewer, has told me that he was so heedless in his money concerns, that in paying him a bill for beer, he gave him two bank notes rolled together instead of one. Mr. Collins did not perceive the mistake till he got home, and when he returned the note Thomson appeared perfectly indifferent about the matter, and said he had enough to go on without it? Mr. Robertson smiled at this anecdote, and said it was like him.

Q. He was not one of the trying philosophers.—He was no Heraclitus? A. No—he was not indeed. I remember his being stopped once between London and Richmond, and robbed of his watch, and when I expressed my regret for his loss, Pshaw—damn it, said he, I am glad they took it from me, 'twas never good for any thing.

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ON THOMSON.

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Q. Was he national in his affections.

A. He had no prejudices whatever.—He was the most liberal of men in all his sentiments.

Q. I have been told he used to associate with parson Comer, and some other conviviais at the old Orange-tree in Kew-lane?

A. Relaxation of any kind was, to him, frequently desirable, and he could conform to any company.—He was benevolent and social, both in his writings and in his life, as his friend Dr. Armstrong says, on another occasion.—He practised what he preached.—Lord Lyttleton's character of him, as an author, was perfectly just. That in his last moments he had no cause to wish any thing blotted he had ever written.

Q. I hear he kept very late hours?

A. No Sir,—very early.—He was always up at sunrise.—But then he had never been in bed.

Q. Did you ever correspond with him?

A. Very seldom—we were so much together there was little opportunity, or occasion for it.

Q. You dont happen to have any reliques of his hand-writing?—A. I dont think I have, but when I get my breath a little better I'll look among my papers to try if I can find any.

The kind old gentleman was warmed with the subject, and even set forward to his escrutoir immediately in the pursuit, but returned only with a letter from the late Dr. Armstrong, which he flattered himself contained something relative to Thomson. In this he was mistaken. It was a rhapsody of thanks in return for being presented with a large bottle of spirits; but it was well worth airing. The stile of it resembled Arbuthnot's; it was in mock heroics. This, said Mr. R. will shew you the intimate terms I was upon with Johnny Armstrong, who wrote that beautiful poem, "The Art of preserving Health." He was a very ingenious and excellent man.

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Q. Did you know Dr. Patrick Murdoch who wrote Thomson's life?—Ay, very well; and esteemed him, Pattie, as I always called him, had a good heart.

Q. Pope, I have heard, used to visit Thomson?

A. Yes, frequently.—Pope has sometimes said, Thomson, I'll walk to the end of your garden, and then set off to the bottom of Kewfoot-lane and back.—Pope, Sir, courted Thomson, and Thomson was always admitted to Pope whether he had company or was alone. But Pope had a jealousy of every eminent writer: he was a viper that gnawed the file.

Q. Was Pope a great talker?—Pope when he liked his company was a very agreeable man. He was fond of adulation; and where he had any dislike, was a most bitter satyrast.

Q. Thomson, I think, was very intimate with David Maller, the editor of Bolinbroke? Sir, that person's name was properly Malloch; but I used to call him Molloch in our festive moments, and Thomson enjoyed the jest. Sir, he had not Thomson's heart.—He was not sound at the core; he made a cat's paw of Thomson, and I did not like the man on that account.

Q. Thomson had two nephews who were gardeners. Did they live with him?—No, they did not live with him, but they lived upon him. He was so generous a man, that if he had had but two eggs, he would have given them both away.

Q. Was you acquainted with Mr. Gray who lived at Richmond-hill?—Yes, and I knew John Gray who was a victualler at Carthagena, who purchased Thomson's collection of prints and drawings, after his decease, but, I believe, purely out of ostentation.

Q. You must have had great influence over him, Sir, from several circumstances you have mentioned, but wish to be suppressed?—Without ostentation, or vanity, Sir, I really very often have wondered how I came to have so much, and the rest of his friends

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ON THOMSON.

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wondered too, for I do say it most sincerely, that I never could find out what made Thomson and many of these genius's so partial to me as they appeared.

Q. Then, Sir, I suspect you are the only one who could not make the discovery?—Sir, I was not fishing for a compliment I assure you.

A. If you had, Sir, I should not have snatched so eagerly at your bait.

Q. I suppose you attended Thomson in a medical as well as a social capacity?—Yes,—Armstrong and myself were with him till the last moment. I was in the room with him when he died. A putrid fever carried him off in less than a week. He seemed to me to be desirous not to live; and I had reason to think that my sister-in-law was the occasion of this.—He could not bear the thoughts of her being married to another.

Q. Pray did you attend his funeral?—Indeed I did; and a real funeral it was to me: as Quin said when he spoke the prologue to *Coriolanus*. I was, in truth, no actor there.

Q. Did you hear Quin speak that prologue, Sir?

A. Yes, I could not have been absent.

Q. Was you the only intimate who paid the last tribute of respect to Thomson's remains?—No, Sir, Quin attended, and Mallet, and another friend patronised by the earl of Warwick, whose name I do not recollect. He was interred in the north-west corner of the church, just where the chilling pew now stands. I pointed it out to the sexton's widow, that she might show it to strangers.

Q. Did you know Andrew Millar?—I knew him well.—He took a box near Thomson's, in Kew-lane, to keep in with an author that was very profitable to him.—Andrew was a good natured fellow, and not an unpleasant companion, but he was a little contracted by his business; had the dross of a bookseller about him.

Q. Did you know Paterfc?—Yes, Paterfon had been clerk to a counting houfe in the city, went for fome time abroad, and on his return was amanuenfis to Thomson, was his deputy as furveyor general of the Leeward Iflands, and fucceeded him in that office; but he did not live to enjoy it, I believe, more than two years.

Q. Collins the poet, and Hammond, author of the love elegies, vifited Thomson?—Yes. Ah! poor Collins he had much genius, but was half mad. Hammond was a gentleman, and a very pleafant man, yet Thomson, I remember, once called him a burnifhed butterfly.—Quin, the comedian, was a fincere friend of Thomson's. He was naturally a moft humane and friendly man, and he only put on the brute when he thought it was expected from him, by thofe who gave him credit for the character.

Q. Was the anecdote of Quin and Thomson true?—Yes, I believe it was.

Q. Mr. Bofwell furmifes that Thomson was a much coarfer man than is commonly allowed?

A. Sir.—Thomson was neither a petit maitre, nor a boor; he had fimplicity without rudenefs, and a cultivated manner without being courtly.—He had a great averfion to letter writing, and did not attempt much of profe compofition of any kind. His time for compofition was generally at the dead hours of the night; and was much in his fummer houfe, which, together with every memorial of his refidence, is carefully preferved by the honourable Mrs. Bofcawen.

Q. Did you know, Sir, of any other attachments of Thomson's except that to his Amanda?

A. No—I believe he was more truly attached to my little wife her fifter, than any one elfe, next to Amanda.

Mr. H. of B. faid he was once asked to dinner by Thomson, but could not attend; one of his friends

who was there, told him that there was a general stipulation agreed on by the whole company, that there should be no hard drinking. Thomson acquiesced, only requiring that each man should drink his bottle. The terms were accepted unconditionally; and when the cloth was removed, a three-quart bottle was set before each of his guests. Thomson had much of that agreeable humour. Mr. Aikman the painter, and Dr. de la Cour, a physician and ingenious writer, were intimate and beloved friends of Thomson. Mr. Aikman was a gentleman of competent estate, and was always friendly to Thomson.

Sir, I cordially thank you for this kindness in suffering yourself to be teased with interrogations; and when Lord B's Tablet on the grave of the poet shall be imposed in Richmond church, I shall hope to see you tripping across the green to take a peep of it.

Sir, If I can crawl across for such gratification, I shall certainly do it.—We then twice shook hands, and parted.—Intelligent old gentlemen little was I aware, that his lengthened eve of life was so very near its close! He was taken seriously ill a few hours after I left him, Monday October 24th, died on the Friday following, and was buried on Saturday the 4th of November by the south side of Richmond church.

Mors ultima linea rerum est.

T. P.

To the Editor of the Bee.

On Laws that are oppressive to Scotland.

[Continued from p. 16.]

SIR,

I now beg leave to conclude my extracts from the book which I have so often quoted. The subject can hardly be tiresome to any person who has the least

spark of attachment to his country, or to the natural rights of mankind. It can offend no advocate of a party, for it exposes not the conduct of individuals; but the principles of government itself. To the philosophical reader it must afford an object of mournful, but instructive amusement, to trace the utmost limits of political insanity.

“ A buss, on the fishing station, was unfortunately lost, and nothing saved but the lives of the crew. The master went to a justice of the peace whom he found in the neighbourhood where he was, and made oath to the loss of his vessel, with the salt on board, but not having saved his papers, he committed a mistake of five or six bushels in the quantity of salt on board. This attestation, signed by the justice of peace, was transmitted to the commissioners, for recovery of the salt bond; on account of the ERROR it was returned to be altered. The man then went before two justices of the peace and made oath to the exact quantity. This attestation was transmitted anew, but returned again as insufficient; it being alledged that the deposition should have been made before a quorum of justices *at their quarter sessions*, (so the law, according to the strict letter requires.) The ship master was gone to sea, and could not be found at that time, and being engaged in the herring fishery, it is a thousand to one if he must not either forego a season's fishing, or be brought to pay the penalty of his bond, as he cannot be certain of being at home at the precise day when the justices meet at the quarter sessions*.

“ With regard to distress brought upon individuals by law suits in consequence of these *salt laws*, it would fill a volume to recite them. But were a bare list of the prosecutions raised on this account

* Present State of the Hebrides. Illustrations of the Report, p. 174, and 176.

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the Report, p. 274.

“ since the commencement of the county laws, to
“ be produced, it would strike the mind of every at-
“ tentive observer with horror. In these cases, the
“ miscarriage of a letter, (and to places where no
“ regular post goes, this must frequently happen,)
“ the carelessness of an ignorant ship-master, the mis-
“ take of a clerk in office, or other circumstances,
“ equally trivial, often involve a whole industrious
“ family in ruin. There are instances of men
“ being brought to Edinburgh, from many hundred
“ miles distance, to the neglect of their own affairs,
“ merely because of some neglect or omission of
“ some petty clerk in office; which, when rectified,
“ brings no other relief, excepting a *permission to re-*
“ *turn home with no farther load of debt, but the*
“ *expence of such a journey and the loss it has occasion-*
“ *ed.* But should the case be otherwise, and should
“ the mistake have been committed by the poor
“ country man, though that the mistake originated
“ from ignorance only, or was occasioned by the loss
“ of a letter, in going to places where no regular
“ posts are established, he becomes loaded with ad-
“ ditional burdens, which, in many cases, all his fu-
“ ture industry and care will never enable him to dis-
“ charge.”

“ On this occasion, we may remark, that though
“ the law is the same with regard to salt in Eng-
“ land and in Scotland, yet, in England, so many
“ cases are given to fishermen in the execution of
“ the law, when compared with Scotland, that it ap-
“ pears *quite a different system*, and is there pro-
“ ductive of every little inconvenience. In Scot-
“ land, many actions are carried on every year with
“ respect to salt bonds: In England, when the com-
“ mittee of fisheries required a list of the number of
“ actions on that account, which had been there car-
“ Vol. VI. O o †

"ried on since the law for encouraging the fisheries commenced, the return was only ONE*."

Now Sir, for what object is it that there is so much vexation on account of this salt duty? A Committee appointed by Parliament, produced a report, by which it appears, that the customs in the North of Scotland, do not pay the expence of collecting them; and of consequence, are a mere burden and oppression to the people, without the least possibility of advantage to the public at large. In the counties of Argyle, Inverness, Sutherland, Caithness, Orkney, Shetland, Cromarty, Nairn, and Moray, the account of customs for ten years, ending with the year 1784, stood thus:

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| Gross produce, | - | - | L. 50,737 | 2 | 1 |
| Payments, | - | - | 51,679 | 10 | 9 |

Payments exceed the produce, - 926 10 9

On this subject, the Committee observe, that they "can hardly exhibit a more deplorable state of a public revenue." But on farther examination, it is evident, that the state of the revenue is still more deplorable. The average expence of the cruizers employed under the Board of Customs in Scotland, amounted, on an average of five years, preceding 1785, to L. 9875 *per annum*; these nine counties, as the Committee observe, "are more extensive than all the rest of Scotland." It is, therefore, but fair to suppose, that one half of the above expence should be stated to their account; and thus there is an annual charge to be added, of about L. 5000 and upon the whole, the customs produce about L. 5000 *per annum*, and the collecting them costs the nation double that sum. The report adds, "so far as your Committee can judge from analogy, they have little reason to expect a more favourable re-

* Illustrations of the report p. 189 and 190.

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"sult from their enquires respecting the *Excise* than "Customs*;" and we are told in a note, that a future report hath since justified their conjecture.

It would be trifling with your readers, to offer many additional remarks on this subject. A more absurd or oppressive system has never insulted the common feelings of mankind. It has been continued under a series of ministers, who have successively been the political idols of the natives of North Britain. Instead of wasting their time in framing fanciful systems of government for Canada, Nova Scotia, and other provinces, which never have paid, and never can pay the expence of protecting them, it would be fortunate for this country, if our ministry had it in their power to disengage us at once from such fatal appendages. We are informed in this book, that an hundred thousand fishermen might find employment in the seas of Scotland. Without doubting the probability of this assertion, let us suppose, that only fifty thousand sailors could find such employment, there is reason to believe, that so great an addition to the maritime resources of this country, would be of more real advantage than all our foreign acquisitions put together; but on this subject I must refer to the work itself.

POCOCURANTE.

Lisimore Oct. 7. 1791.

To the Editor of the Bee.

Memorable Sayings.

SIR,

THERE was lately published at Paris, composed by Gabriel Brotier, Librarian of the college of Louis the Great, a collection of the memorable sayings of great men, in imitation of the collection made by Plutarch, and presented to the Emperor Trajan. Thinking that the sayings of the ancients are already

* Ibid. Introduction p. 64. & seq.

well known, Brotier has confined himself to modern times, and to the great men of his own country. Of the utility and manner of studying such a work he expressed himself thus :

If says he, there be a time of life in which it is essentially necessary to study the memorable sayings of great and wise men, it is in youth, when the ordinary course of education is finished ; and when one is entering the world. It is then that it is necessary to distinguish the different kinds of merit, to remark that for which nature hath formed us, to fill the mind with ideas of duty and of fame, and by the culture of the understanding and of the heart, to announce to the world capacity and abilities. In this decisive moment, where can we find a guide to direct, and lights to conduct us ? The road of precept is long, dangerous, and fatiguing. If it sometimes bestows upon us the means of acquiring knowledge, it still more frequently abounds in doubt and uncertainty. It never gives that penetrating, birds-eye glance, which alone forms the distinction between the man of ordinary abilities, and the man of genius. By the knowledge of the world, one acquires *une fleur d'esprit* ; one forms himself to be civil, agreeable and polite ; but does any one from it, gain a firm and decided character ? Do not the manners thence become soft and effeminate ? The soul, in our intercourse with the polite world, is almost always without energy ; a thousand frivolous objects engage it ; hence life is useless, and death obscure. What a difference takes place, if a young man imprints upon his mind, the memorable sayings of great men ! Each stroke of character that enters his soul, elevates and aggrandizes it. His sentiments are enobled, his views extended ; his character moulds itself upon those characters, composed of all features of grandeur and nobleness ; contracts, without perceiving it, the happy habit of thinking with delicacy, of judging

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ON RENT AND GRAIN.

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with force, of expressing himself with justness. An impression still more happy acts upon his soul: At first he experienced only admiration for his masters; gradually he feels springing up a desire of imitating them.

The most distinguished characters in this collection, are Henry IV. Louis XIV. Condé, Turenne, Montecuculli, Colbert and Sully. The editor, the nephew of Brotier, has added to those of the great personages just mentioned, some of his uncles, of which we shall give the two following as a specimen.

He often repeated these words of Hardouin; "study is paradise, composing, purgatory, but printing is hell."

He could not suffer the translations of the Greek and Latin poets; he said of their translators, "that they resembled collections of butterflies. Let them be ever so expert, a portion of the dust, which forms the velvet of the wings of these beautiful insects, sticks to their fingers; and the part of them which they preserve, has lost all the lustre and brilliancy of its colouring."

A READER.

Disquisition on the connection that subsists between Rent, and the price of Grain, and their mutual influence upon each other.*

IN compliance with the request of a *farmer*, vol. iv. p. 69, and some other respectable correspondents, I now sit down to enquire into the effect of *rent* on the *price of grain*; and the manner in which these two particulars, reciprocally influence each other: A subject of no incurious discussion, that has not been hitherto fully elucidated.

Grain can in no case be raised, without a certain degree of labour and expence. the price of which must

* This piece has been delayed longer than was intended, from accidental circumstances.

be repaid to the grower, otherwise he cannot afford to produce it. This may be said, in the strictest sense, to constitute *its intrinsic* price.

Money being accounted the common measure of value, this price will be affected by the quantity of money that can be obtained for labour, in general, in that place at the time. The farmer must give those he employs, wages in proportion to what they can get in other employments; so that if these wages are high, the farmers charge must be high also. And the *intrinsic price* of his corn must rise, as the rate of this expense is augmented.

Thus, do we perceive, that there must ever be a necessary connection between the price of grain, and the prosperity of manufacturers, and the degree of emolument to be derived from them; so that any attempt to distress the one, at the expense of the other, is contrary to nature, violent in its operation, and must be transitory in its effects.

The intrinsic price of grain, however, all other circumstances being alike, must vary with the fertility of the soil on which it is produced. On a rich soil, less labour, and less seed will produce a given quantity of grain, than they will do on a soil that is less productive; so that, strictly speaking, the intrinsic price of corn, when considered only in this point of view, will be different on almost every different field. How then, it may be asked, can its intrinsic value be ascertained over a vast tract of country, possessing a diversity of soils, of various degrees of fertility; and how shall matters be so managed, as that all the rearers of it shall draw nearly the same price for their grain, and have nearly the same profits?

All this is effected in the easiest and most natural manner, by means of rent. *Rent* is, in fact, nothing else than a simple and ingenious contrivance, for equalising the profits to be drawn from fields of different

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degrees of fertility, and of local circumstance, which
tend to augment or diminish the expence of culture.
To make this plain, a few elucidations will be neces-
sary.

In every country where men exist, there will
be an effective demand for a certain quantity of
grain: By *effective* demand, I mean a demand which
must be supplied, that the inhabitants may all be
properly subsisted. It is this demand, which in all
cases regulates the price of grain; for the quantity
of grain required in this case must be had, and the
price that is necessary for producing it, must be paid,
whatever that may be. These calls, are of such a
pressing nature, as not to be dispensed with.

For the sake of illustration, we shall, in the pre-
sent case, suppose, that all the soils are arranged into
classes according to their degrees of fertility; which
classes we shall at present denote by the letters A, B,
C, D, E, F, G, &c. Let those comprehended in the
class A, be the richest; those in the class B, the se-
cond; and so on, decreasing one degree in fertility for
each class, as you advance towards G. Now, as the
expence of cultivating the least fertile soil, is as great,
or greater, than that of cultivating the most fertile
field, it must happen, that if an equal quantity of
grain, the produce of each class of fields, can be sold
at the same price, the profit on cultivating the most
fertile field will be greater, if no precaution were
taken to guard against it, than could be obtained by
cultivating those which are less fertile. And as
this profit will continue to decrease, as sterility in-
creases, it must at last happen, whatever be the
price of corn, that the expence of cultivating some of
the inferior classes of soils must equal, or exceed the
value of the whole produce.

This being admitted, let us suppose that the ef-
fective demand was such as to raise the price of

grain, say to sixteen shillings *per* boll; and that the fields included in the class F, could just admit of defraying all expences, and no more, when corn was at that price; that those in the class E, could admit of being cultivated when the price was only fifteen shillings *per* boll; and that, in like manner, the classes D, C, B and A, consisted of fields which could have barely paid the expences of cultivation, respectively, when the prices were at fourteen, thirteen, twelve and eleven shillings *per* boll.

In these circumstances, it would happen, that those persons who possessed the fields in the class of F, would be able to afford no rent at all; nor could any rent be afforded in this case, for those of G, or other more sterile fields *for the purpose of rearing* corn: But it is also evident, that those who possessed fields in the class E, could not only pay the expence of cultivating them, but could also afford a rent to the proprietor, equal to one shilling for every boll of free produce; and in like manner, those who possessed the fields D, C, B, and A, would be able to afford a rent equal to two, three, four and five shillings *per* boll, of their free produce, respectively. Nor would the proprietors of these rich fields, find any difficulty in obtaining these rents; because farmers finding they could live equally well upon these soils, after paying such rents, as they could afford to do upon the fields, in the class F, without any rent at all, they would be equally willing to take these fields as the others. Thus it is that rent equalises the profit on different soils, in the most natural and easy manner, without tending in any degree to affect the price of grain.

Let us, however, once more suppose, that the whole produce of all the fields in the classes A, B, C, D, E, and F, were not sufficient to maintain the whole of the inhabitants of that district. In that case, one of two things must happen: Either the price of grain must rise

to seventeen shillings, so as to induce the owners of the field in the class G, to bring them into culture; or a supply must be brought from some other place to answer that demand. In the first case, the fields G, being brought into culture, those in the class F would now be able to afford a rent equal to one shilling *per* boll of free produce; and all the other classes could admit a similar rise. Here then we clearly perceive, that it is the price of grain that affects the rent, and not the rent that affects the price of the grain, as has been very often mistakenly alleged.

The natural consequence of such an increased demand for grain, and augmentation of price, is the converting of barren fields into corn lands, which never otherwise could have become such. A much greater quantity of grain is thus produced, than would otherwise have been possible; and a more spirited agriculture everywhere takes place. By these exertions, the fields which originally ranked in the class G, pass into that of F, and by a gradual progression, they slide successively into the classes E, D, C, till at length they even reach the class A itself. In consequence of every one of these steps, a prodigious augmentation in the quantity of corn reared, is produced. The farmer is also enabled to sell it at a lower price than formerly, although he affords a higher rent; so that every member of the community is benefited by the change.

It is beautiful to trace the operation of natural causes on the physical and political world, when they are suffered to operate freely: When population is augmented, and industry flourishing in a nation, we have seen, that it must of necessity occasion a greater demand for the products of agriculture than formerly. This gives a brisker sale, which augments the industry of the farmer; more corn is thus produced. Some people would call this a creation, because it is

obtained where corn would never otherwise have been produced. This corn once raised, produces more manure, which, judiciously applied to the soil, gives additional produce. In this manner a beneficial progression is established, that admits of an extension, the limits of which no man can foresee. As the people increase, the means of supporting these people is augmented; so that a country, though it may be at the present moment, seemingly capable of maintaining no more than barely its present inhabitants, may yet, by a gradual increase, under a judicious government, have these augmented to perhaps a hundred times its present population; and yet be even more capable of furnishing subsistence to its inhabitants than it is at present. These particulars admit of the clearest proof, both by reasoning *a priori*, and by a fair induction of facts, which our limits alone at present forbid to enumerate. Nor is the converse of this proposition less demonstratively certain, *viz.* that by diminishing the number of inhabitants, and thus decreasing the demand for the produce of the fields, the quantity of that produce will be decreased;—the rents will of course fall,—the lands will slide back into the state that does not admit the expence of cultivation;—the total produce of all the fields, considered as an aggregate of grass and corn, will fall much short of what they formerly yielded*,—and the few inhabitants that remain, will find only a scanty subsistence, where a much more numerous people formerly enjoyed plenty. It is thus the people of Palestine, though not one-tenth of the number which once inhabited it in a state of abundance, now

* When land is suffered to run into grass after being cultivated, unless it be that of the very richest quality, it gradually produces less and less than at first, so as in time to afford scarce any food at all for domestic animals. This is a fact, that some inattentive observers will perhaps be disposed to controvert. I wish to God, Scotland were in that condition, as not to afford any proofs of it, which are at present but too numerous.

find a difficulty to pick up a scanty subsistence there. This, some persons may perhaps ascribe to the supernatural influence of divine malediction having dried up the sources of plenty there. To avoid arguing on this head, we need only turn our eyes to Spain, which three centuries ago, nourished four times, at least, the quantity of people it now contains. It could then afford abundance of food for all its people, and to spare: Its inhabitants now are frequently obliged to have recourse to foreign aid, to prevent them from starving. This phenomenon we are not to consider as in the smallest degree miraculous: It would have indeed been miraculous had it been otherwise.

I must not, however, conclude this paper, without taking notice of one particular, which was purposely kept out of sight not to embarrass the demonstration. In the foregoing observations, I have taken notice of land that might produce corn without affording any rent; but that, though a physical possibility, cannot practically happen. Land, in every case, while in pasture, can afford some rent; and when the pasture is rich, among a luxurious people, it can afford more rent, in many circumstances, than while in corn. This rent must always be deducted, therefore, whatever it be, before such land comes to the state in which our reasoning above is philosophically just.* If, therefore, the price of grain be unreasonably depressed by injudicious regulations, while the price of live stock increases, a wonderful diminution in the quantity of grain reared, may take place, so as to occasion phenomena, that may appear very inexplicable to short-sighted men, and occasion alarms that are altogether unfounded. The effects, however, of such

* This rent ought in fact to be accounted part of the expence of cultivating the soil, as it must be sunk when it is subjected to the plough.

regulations, are highly pernicious, because they stop improvements in their very origin. The actual quantity of vegetable production, whether for the food of man or beast, can only be augmented in any country by the culture of corn crops, in the first instance*. A barren heath, if left untouched by human culture, would continue a heath for ever. But by the industry of man, that heath may soon be converted into corn, and artificial grass, and all the variety of useful crops suited to the climate. It is by encouraging agriculture alone, therefore, taking that word in its strict and literal sense, "that ever two stalks of corn can be produced, or two blades of grass be made to grow, where one only grew before." Nor are its powers limited to the narrow sphere that Swift in this sentence assigned it; both grass and corn, and every other useful vegetable production, may be made to grow in abundance, not only where never one plant of these did grow; but even where never one of them would have grown, without the fostering aid of man.

All is the gift of industry.

What have those to answer for, who by their weak and foolish regulations, tie up the hands of the industrious man, and oblige him to languish in want, when, but for these regulations, they might had abundance! Where is the man who will weed out all such pernicious statutes from the British code! He would have many crafures to make; his task would be more la-

* I am not insensible of the improvements that may be made, by spreading calcareous manures in great quantities upon heath; but because of the immense quantity of calcareous manure required for this mode of improvement, it can, in few cases, be procured; so that it may be considered only as a partial exception to a very general rule.

The same thing may be said, of the substantial improvements that in some cases may be made by watering. In both cases, the *quantum* of improvement, where the manures are limited, may be greatly augmented, by the aid of judicious culture.

horious than that of Hercules, but it would be more beneficial also.

To the Editor of the Bee.

MANY are the complaints flowing from all quarters, in almost every period of society, against the tediousness and expence attending the decision of disputes amongst men, in the courts of justice. Yet no device has yet been invented to diminish these inconveniences; and indeed, from the multiplicity of necessary laws, there very probably never will. The arbitration of persons, of professions, and in situations nearly equal to those of the parties at variance, is at present the most favourite mode by which commercial people settle their disputes. But this, though it appears at first sight to be eligible, is a very fallacious method of decision. Mankind, with the mediocrity of talents with which they are generally endowed, and the imperfect education of the commercial part of them, are but little accustomed to deep reflection: They view a cause superficially, and form their opinion from the first impressions they receive, without tracing it to the bottom, and fully considering the principles of it: They are likewise, for the most part, not being paid for their trouble, very indolent, and not inclined to take up much of their time with such matters; and of course, either dispatch the business, in the superficial manner above described, or let it lie over from time to time, without deciding it at all. I have frequently been witness to arbitrations, in consequence of this circumstance, lying over for many years, and after all, the causes have been terminated in the Parliament House. Besides these objections to private arbitrators, there is another, which, co-operating with them, is the

worst of all. Arbiters I usually find are each strongly prejudiced in favour of his own friend*; and almost determined, before he knows what the matter in question is, to give it in his favour. The consequence is, that, to save the trouble to themselves, and a third person, of chusing an Umpire, they often just divide the sum disputed into two, and give each a half. Considering all these things, which I need scarcely have mentioned to traders, I submit it to the judgement of the public, whether it would not be much more expedient, in such cases, to refer the cause to the arbitration of a lawyer, paying him each an equal sum for his trouble? The sum would be, in general, trifling in comparison to the object; and the cause would be impartially, quickly, and, for the most part, judiciously determined. Let not the traders, whom, I am sorry to find, are often very unjustly prejudiced against the learned gentlemen of the gown, think that I am a lawyer, and speaking from interested motives: To such I shall first say, Reflect, and point out to yourselves the objections to what I have said; and then I shall tell them that I am a merchant, and speak almost entirely from the recollection of much experience in the arbitration way.

These hints, Mr Bee, are perhaps but of little value; yet as they will not take up much of your paper, you may probably indulge me with laying them before my fellow citizens; and if they shall be productive of leading any of them into a just manner of thinking on the subject, and deriving benefit therefrom, my half hour will not be ill spent in writing them.

A. A. L.

Leith, February 1791.

* The manner in which disputes are usually, amongst merchants, referred to arbitration, is, each person appointing some one of his friends, and investing both with powers, in case of their opinions not coinciding, to chuse an Umpire, whose determination is final.

To the Editor of the Bee.

On religious Dissention.

SIR,

EVERY one who has read the New Testament will acknowledge, that the principal traits in the character of the gospel, are mildness, benevolence, charity; but who, that has taken a view of the conduct of its professors, will not confess, that these virtues appear with very faint lights, amid the gloomy shades of Christian bigotry, and intolerance. This consideration gives countenance to the opinion, that religion, among most men, is rather to be attributed to prejudice than conviction,—is rather the effect of education than the result of rational enquiry: For if we reflect on the sources for a diversity of opinion, respecting the subordinate doctrines of the scriptures, we shall find ourselves less inclined to wonder that schisms are so frequent, than that they are so few. Supposing a man to have satisfied his mind, by such previous enquiries as qualify him for the title of a rational Christian, and to be convinced that the scriptures are of divine origin, let us see what farther questions remain? Now, granting that he has convinced himself, even of the plenary inspiration of the scriptures, as divines technically call the tenet which holds that every sentence in the Bible is written by the inspiration of God; yet, still the difficulties he will meet with, in the understanding of the meaning of particular passages, will lead him to entertain sentiments of candour for those who disagree with him, on the determinate meaning of peculiar sentences. May a lover of truth venture to offer a hint on the interpretation of the scriptures, the object of which is the moderate aim of preventing folly, not the pre-

A. A. L.

sumptuous attempt to acquire wisdom. *The language of the scriptures may be divided into the plain, (comprehending such sentences as are to be construed literally,) and the figurative, containing such as are to be understood metaphorically. In drawing the line of distinction between the plain and the figurative, all passages, which being literally taken militate against any of the essential attributes of God, ought to be included in the figurative; and, in expounding the particular sentences of the figurative, no construction ought to be admitted which contradicts the doctrines of the plain. Sapientia prima stultitia caruisse,—Preliminary to knowledge is the avoidance of error. The operation of the above rule does not extend to promote the understanding of the scriptures, in any great degree, but so far only as it tends to prevent the misunderstanding of them in any of the most important points: Though we cannot use it as an instrument to enlarge the store of our knowledge, by clearing away the abstruse intricacies which impede our progress in the study of holy writ; yet it affords an effectual defence against the pernicious errors arising from the encroachments of superstition, and the tyranny of prejudice. With an attentive regard to the caution of this rule, we should find no reason to differ about the fundamental doctrines of Christianity, or to quarrel about its subordinate precepts; charity would characterise the practical, and candour the theoretical professors of our religion.*

Yours &c.

WM. DRUTHIN.

Oct. 1791.

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DRUTHIN.

ADVICE TO A YOUNG LADY.

THE counsel of a friend, Belinda hear,
Too roughly kind to please a lady's ear;
Unlike the flatteries of a lover's pen,
Such truths as women seldom learn from men;
Nor think I praise you ill, when thus I show,
What female vanity might fear to know:
Some merit's mine, who dares to be sincere,
But greater yours, sincerity to bear.

Hard is the fortune that your sex attends:
Women, like princes, find no real friends;
All who approach them, their own ends pursue,
Lovers and ministers are never true!
Hence, oft from reason, heed: 's beauty strays,
And the most trusted guide, the most betrays.
Hence, by fond dreams of fancied pow'r amus'd,
When most you tyrannise, you're most abus'd.

What is your sex's latest, earliest care,
Your heart's supreme ambition?—To be fair.
For this the toilet ev'ry hour employs;
Hence all the toils of dress, and all the joys!
For this, hands, lips, and eyes are put to school,
And each instructed feature has its rule:
And yet, how few have learn'd, when this is giv'n,
Not to disgrace the partial boon of heav'n.
Do you, my Fair, endeavour to possess,
An elegance of mind, as well as dress?
Be that your ornament, and know to please,
By graceful nature's unaffected ease.
Nor make to dangerous wit, a vain pretence,
But wisely rest content with modest sense;
For wit, like wine, intoxicates the brain,
Too strong for feeble woman to sustain:
Of those who claim it, more than half have none,
And half of those who have it are undone.

To rougher man, ambition's task resign,
'Tis ours in senates, or in courts to shine.
Vol. VI. Qq

One only care your gentle breast should move,
Th' important business of your life is love:
To this great point, direct your constant aim,
This makes your happiness, and this your fame.

Be never temperance with passion join'd,
Love not at all, or else be fondly kind.
In this, extreme alone can truly bless,
The virtue of a lover is excess.

Contemn the little pride of giving pain,
Nor think that conquest justifies disdain.
Short is the period of insulking pow'r,
Offended Cupid finds his vengeful hour;
Soon he'll resume the empire that he gave,
And soon the tyrant shall become the slave.

Blest is the maid, and worthy to be blest,
Whose soul's entire by him she loves possess'd;
Feels ev'ry vanity in fondness lost,
And asks no pow'r but that of pleasing most.
Here is the bliss, in sweet returns to prove
The honest warmth of undiffembled love.
For her, inconstant man might cease to range,
And gratitude forbid desire to change.

Thus I, Belinda, would your charms improve,
And form your heart to all the arts of love.
The task were harder to secure my own,
Against the pow'r of those already known:
For well you twist the secret chains, that bind
With gentle force the captivated mind:
Skill'd ev'ry soft attraction to employ,
Each flatter'ing hope, and each alluring joy,
I own your genius, and from you receive,
The rules of pleasing which to you I give.

MENTOR.

THE WISH.

A SMALL neat mansion, where embow'r'd in trees
Silent I'd court the genius of the breeze;

Where pleasing prospects brighten in my eye,
 And the loquacious rill goes bubbling by;
 There sip the gale as fresh from heav'n it flies,
 Rest with the linnet, with the lark arise!
 Pass my calm days in contemplative song,
 And pity all that bustle through the throng.

M. G.

 ON HAPPINESS.

AFTER THE MANNER OF MILTON.

[*Translated from a Collection just published at Berlin.*]

O HAPPINESS! where's thy resort?
 Amidst the splendour of a court?
 Or dost thou more delight to dwell,
 With humble merit in his cell,
 In search of truth? Or dost thou rove
 Thro' Plato's academic grove?
 Or else with Epicurus gay,
 Laugh at the farces mortals play?
 Or, with the Graces, dost thou lead
 The sportive dance along the mead?
 Or, in Bellona's bloody car,
 Exult amidst the scenes of war?
 No more I'll vex, no more I'll mind thee,
 Fair fugitive! I cannot find thee!

 MENTOR.

Memorial and Petition of MADAME GUILLIN to the National Assembly of France.

If the narrative that follows were not authenticated in such a manner, as to make the most sceptical person see that it is impossible to refuse it credit, I should have supposed it to be one of the most daring impositions that ever was attempted on the public. It is the substance of a memorial and petition presented by Madame Guillin, in person, at the bar of the National Assembly of France, as published in the Gazette nationale, ou Moniteur universel, of Paris, on Tuesday the 16th of August 1791. Monsieur VICTOR BROGLIE, President of the National Assembly, introduced the business by a short speech from the chair: This, and the Lady's address to the Assembly, with the answer to it, by the President, are, for the sake of brevity, omitted. What follows, is the substance of a written petition, that was read by one of the Secretaries of the Assembly. Our readers will excuse the singular style of this composition, which we have endeavoured, though imperfectly, to imitate. This kind of language is, at the present moment, accounted eloquence in France. This article is given as a singular trait of the national manners, and the spirit of the times, without farther comment.

You will recollect without doubt, gentlemen, the cruel circumstances in which the city of Lyons was involved, whilst Monsieur Guillin de Pougelon, brother of my husband, was accused, with some other persons, of having formed a project of a counter-revolution. The report which was made to you at first, appeared, in some measure, to be well founded; and active foresight and necessity, engaged your *comité de recherches* to a rigour, fatal to some individuals, though salutary to the public cause. Messieurs Guillin de Pougelon, Terrasse, and Descarts being taken, were condemned to prison till farther orders.

I could show, in favour of the accused, triumphant exculpatory pieces, which the equity of the present minister

of justice has brought to light, to clear the innocence of M. Guillin and the accused: I ought to confine myself to point to you the deplorable situation of that good old man, who was the benefactor, the adviser, and the defender of those who dare to accuse him at present. The cause is nearly connected with mine and that of my children.

M. Guillin Montel, my husband, had served his country faithfully, and his country had rewarded him for it: Covered with honourable wounds, loaded with years, and esteemed by the public, he inhabited peaceably his house of Polemieux, near Lyons; I and his children were his only society: His house was always the asylum of the unfortunate, who never solicited him in vain; it became that of the family of his brother, when the storm which was to destroy us, had already gathered over his head. No just complaint, no reproach had ever been made against him; ever faithful to his duty, he respected all authorities. Several visits had already been made in the house; already it had been observed that peace reigned in our asylum, and wisdom in our conduct: Ah! without doubt, the enemies of the name which we bear, had not thought their hatred satisfied by the first misfortunes with which they had afflicted us.

On the 26th of June last, two municipalites joined to that of Polemieux, dared to invest our habitation; a search for arms was the pretext. The apparatus of war is displayed, and 300 national guards press round the municipal officers. No defence is opposed: Ah! what could an old man do, surrounded by a few women, and children in the cradle!

M. Montel asks if they have orders; objects that the acts of the department forbid such incursions: He speaks in the name of the law; he is not heard even by the municipal officers. I advance before the most blood thirsty; they respected me not; but the cry of fury spread itself afar: They beat to arms; the villages around assemble: thirty parishes run to arms, thirty standards are in motion. Against whom? Great God! against an old man,—against women and children!

They demand with loud cries the head of my husband! The domestics fled,—the doors were burst open,—the furniture broken;—I force my husband to take refuge in a concealed cellar;—he had already given up his arms, without attempting the life of any of his assailants.

I remain alone in the midst of these furious people:—Already the pillage is begun; the fire which had preceded it shews itself everywhere;—I make myself a passage through the flame,—my sex is no longer a protection for me against these furies!—I supplicate their mercy.—I hold out to them, in my arms, my two children, terrified and in the convulsions of death. Wandering in the midst of armed men, loaded with blows and insults, I offer them my life to save that of my husband: I entreat the municipal officers, in the name of humanity and of the law, to interpose their authority. The fury appeared for a moment to be suspended:—I began to flatter myself with hope, but I had no reason; the flames had made too great progress:—The unhappy man, pursued from retreat to retreat, avoids one death, only to find from the hands of assassins another. Some men encourage him, and engage for his life. Vain oaths! As soon as he appears, the rage is redoubled;—they try who can give him the first blow.

I have seen my unfortunate husband *torn to pieces alive; I have seen his members torn asunder, and scattered around him; I have seen his dying eye; I have heard his expiring mouth bid me his last farewell.—He was put to death!*

I have seen his head cut off, and his bloody members carried in trophies to the neighbouring villages.—Those who remain, dispute for his mutilated body; they bathe their hideous faces and their hands in his blood; they present themselves to the people in this horrible attire. Stupefied, and unconscious of what I did, I demanded reason from them, with loud cries; but the wretches, without doubt to augment my sufferings, have condemned me to the torment of living.

At last the canibals retire. Where do they go?—to renew the feast of Atreus,—to roast the members of their victim, and then devour them!

Dec. 28.

1791.

MADAME GUILLIN'S PETITION.

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The national militia stopped them in the midst of that abominable repast.

Wandering through the woods, it was twenty-four hours before I could join the unfortunate remains of my family. We have taken refuge at Lyons, not being able to live in a house reduced to ashes, which had swallowed in its ruins, furniture, money,—in fine, every thing we had. Alas! What remains to my children and me? Nothing! What remains to an unfortunate woman, and to children, bending under the load of misfortunes? Neither father nor husband!

M. Guillin de Pougelon has been in irons for nine whole months. This old man, who during sixty-eight years of useful service, has not been accused of any crime, groans in secret, deprived of the sight of his children, without any kind of consolation, preyed upon by inquietude, and loaded with physical distress, which make his life be endangered.—Each day has seemed to aggravate his losses. The wife of his son, a tender wife and mother, who was the comfort of his old age, depressed by this stroke, which deprived her of her father-in-law whom she loved, in an excess of despair, after having bathed her child with her tears, threw herself from a window! and died lamented by every sensible being.

M. Guillin de Pougelon whose liberty I come at your feet to claim, is the tutor of my children. It is on him alone that all our hopes repose: He is the only protector whom we can claim. Nature has given him to us,—the magistrates have confirmed it.

I ask of you, gentlemen, in the name of the nation, in the name of justice, to be favourable to my demand, and to crown it by setting at liberty M. Guillin, my brother-in-law, and tutor of my children. You will acquire by this act of beneficence a new right to the gratitude and veneration of the French people.

The Assembly referred this petition to the Committee of Reports.

HINTS TO LEGISLATORS.

Smuggling authorised by Law.

It has been often remarked, that exorbitant duties will always occasion smuggling, which no art of man can prevent. The chance of sometimes escaping with impunity, will tempt men to run such great risks, where the hope of gain is very strong, that no regulations, however severe, will prevent it. The numbers, however, who are ruined by failing in their attempt to elude the law; and the numbers who are obliged to be kept in pay, to watch these, form two numerous bodies that cannot be contemplated without horror by the philanthropic citizen. The one party proves highly destructive to society; while the other party consumes, in idle expences, the money that is levied, with difficulty, for public purposes.

But this is not the worst evil that attends the practice of attempting to levy exorbitant duties. A system of corruption is thus established, which must quickly pervade all orders of citizens, and end in the destruction of all sound principles of morality. The collectors of the revenue find it their interest to connive at frauds, to a certain extent, in order to increase their emoluments by presents and forfeitures. The dealers in these articles find it their interest to court the favour of all persons who have charge of revenue affairs, by the meanest compliances: Their minds become servile; and they are the proper tools of despotism, who may be employed for any base purpose by their superiors, whenever opportunity offers for that purpose; the honest trader is, by these arts, inevitably ruined, and the foundations of all good government are effectually sapped; while the true springs of honest industry are inevitably relaxed.

It is not a little curious for the speculative philosopher, to trace the various devices that ingenuity, whetted by the hope of gain, discovers, to convert to profit the ignorance of legislators, when, despising the dictates of common sense, they make laws that cannot be executed. An

instance of that kind fell lately under my observation, which deserves to be generally known.

The value of tobacco, delivered in Britain, is about from three halfpence to threepence *per* pound; the duty charged on that article is fifteenpence *per* pound. When a seizure is made of tobacco, attempted to be smuggled, one half of that goes to the person who seizes it, and the other half to the crown. A certain class of dealers in tobacco have, in these circumstances, contrived to carry on a very safe and lucrative trade in it, to the total ruin of the honest dealers, by the following device: They purchase a vessel of very small value, in which they load a certain quantity of tobacco, and get it entered at a foreign port, to recover their bond. They then give information, in a private way, to a certain officer of revenue, with whom they are in good understanding, that this tobacco is to be smuggled on shore, at a certain time and place, which they mention. The officer, in consequence of this information, is on the look out for it at the time, and makes a sure prize of it. The vessel is condemned and burnt; the tobacco is soon brought to sale at the Customhouse, and usually draws about fifteenpence *per* pound; one half of that goes to the revenue officer, *viz.* sevenpence halfpenny, which is divided between the informer, who is the former owner of the tobacco, and the seizing officer, in such proportions as they can previously agree upon; this I have been told runs between one-half and one-fourth to the officer. In this way the dealer usually draws from 50 to 100 *per cent.* on the venture; or at the rate of 130 *per cent.* profit; and thus a very lucrative trade is carried on, to the ruin of the fair trader, who never can sell his goods at the price of the Customhouse sales, which seldom exceed the bare duties alone.

This kind of trade, has, I am assured, been carried on to a considerable extent in various parts of Britain; nor does it seem to be possible to detect it; as the law appears to be strictly complied with in all respects. It is the interest of the revenue officer to keep his own secret; because, should he discover it, he immediately stops this source of emolument to himself. It is his interest also, not to be too

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hard in his demands, lest he should drive the other party to another for refuge. On these ties they depend for fidelity on his part, without any written agreement that could be brought in evidence against him; and finding the officer once to be depended on, it is the interest of the smuggler to be true and accurate in his informations, and to throw as much way as possible; so that they mutually work to each others hands, in the most cordial manner that can be imagined, while they appear to have no manner of interference with one another.

This is only one, of many thousand modes that have been devised to carry on business of this sort with success; and were laws to be multiplied, without number, to prevent them, other devices would be fallen on for the same purpose which cannot be obviated, till these devices in their turn be also discovered. The conclusion that must be drawn from these premises is, that high and exorbitant duties never answer the purpose of effectually augmenting the revenue, but tend inevitably to ruin the industry, and corrupt the morals of the people; and ought of course to be in all cases abandoned, as extremely pernicious.

As a system has long prevailed in this country, of defrauding the revenue, under the pretext of augmenting it; and as this system tends, in the most powerful manner, to discourage the honest dealer and manufacturer, to repress the industry and retard the prosperity of the country, the Editor of this miscellany, will act at least a patriotic part, when he shall, as in the present instance, lay open to the public, the iniquitous arts of those, who under the cloak of public authority, exert their whole influence to promote the extension of such fraudulent practices.

Farther Account of the Proceedings of the Sierra Leona Company, respecting that Settlement, since the passing of the Bill.

As I have no doubt but this establishment will, in time, be productive of consequences highly interesting to mankind, I am desirous of marking now, with as much pre-

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cision as possible, the steps that have been taken by this truly patriotic society; not with a view simply to preserve the memory of these things, but to serve as a sort of standard, by which the future conduct of the society may be judged, in case they should ever deviate from the upright plan, that I am satisfied they are at present seriously desirous of pursuing. That the Company can affect all the good that the principal promoters of that scheme at present expect, is impossible: That interested individuals, against whose machinations no human foresight can make a complete provision, will in part counteract their designs, cannot be doubted: That in a beginning undertaking of such magnitude, where the objects to be attempted are so little known, errors will be committed; and that particular enterprizes, which promise at first success, must be at length abandoned, are things so obvious, as to be with certainty expected. But should it so happen, that a fair and exact state of the proceedings of this Company shall be published from time to time, giving an account, not only of the state of facts that have already occurred, but also of the enterprizes projected, and the effects that are expected to result from these, it will furnish a useful lesson to posterity to direct their conduct in similar circumstances, and will afford a pleasing study to the philologist, who endeavours to trace the progress of the human mind, and to mark the gradual progress of reason, and the essential benefits it derives from the aid of experience. What here follows is a feeble attempt to begin this history. It pretends not to absolute accuracy as to particulars, but the materials were drawn from a source that leaves no room to doubt of their general authenticity.

The Company of adventurers, convinced of the difficulties that are to be encountered in every undertaking of this sort, have wisely determined to proceed with great caution. They have resolved to give liberal encouragement, and ample protection to the new settlers; but sensible of the evils that result to society from habits of idleness, and a relaxed system of morals, they have determined to be scrupulously careful in selecting from among those who apply for permission to go, only such persons,

as from the best attested character, supported by the result of private enquiry, promise to do well.

The encouragements they offer to poor settlers, of the above description, who are carried from Europe or elsewhere, by the Company, are as follow :

Their free passage, and necessaries on their voyage.

Assistance to rear a cabin for themselves on shore when they arrive there, with permission to sleep on board the vessel till it shall be finished.

An allowance of full provisions for three months after their arrival ; and half provisions for three months more.

To every full grown male twenty acres of good land, ten acres for every woman, and five for each child they carry with them. This land is to be given to these settlers and their heirs for ever, in the fullest and most ample manner that can be devised.

They are also furnished with tools for clearing and cultivating the ground ; and seed for the ground they can clear during the first two years.

The ground naturally produces cotton and the sugarcane ; and where cultivated, rice in great perfection, and many other products.

The Company also, to encourage small beginnings, intend to erect a common mill and boiling-house for sugar, in the most convenient spot they can chuse, adjoining to the river, which, under certain regulations, will be let out to every inhabitant who may have occasion to use it for the small quantities of sugar they may at first rear, that they may not be obliged to forego the culture of it for the want of this important conveniency. They are, in like manner, to erect a public gin, for taking out the seeds of cotton, and a warehouse in which it can be safely kept, till a merchant offers to purchase it. They intend, in like manner, to erect, from time to time, any other public works, that shall be found to be necessary for promoting the beginning enterprizes of this rising society, but which may require too great an outlay for them to be able to afford.

They mean also to have a store, provided with a good supply of utensils and clothing, where the settlers and

natives may be at all times certain of finding these articles, either for money or goods; but it is by no means intended that the Company shall have the exclusive keeping of these stores, every European or native being at liberty to do the like when they incline; for the liberal minded men who have digested this plan, are fully aware, that no regulations for the management of these stores, that they could devise, would be sufficient to counteract the baneful influence of a monopoly.

The Company not only intend to invite, by these encouragements, industrious persons who chuse to leave Europe or America, to go to these settlements; but they hold out encouragements to the natives of Africa themselves, particularly freedom and protection to all who shall settle within their territories. With the particulars they mean to give to those, as to territorial possession, I am not yet informed. Possibly in their present state, special indulgences, of a kind different from what Europeans would require, may be necessary. The only regulations that have yet come to my knowledge, with a view to grant security to these persons, are as follow:

By the act of Parliament, the Company are to forfeit all right and title to this territory, if they ever shall purchase a single slave. This clause of the charter is to be held out to the natives, and explained, so as to afford them the fullest assurance that they neither can be openly sold nor privately kidnapped in this territory.

As a farther security to the natives, they have also ordained, that in all trials, of whatever nature it may be, where a black is concerned, if one white man be admitted on the jury, there must be a black man, at least, for every such white person; and no regulation is made to prevent the whole of the jury from being blacks.

Peace is the avowed object of this Company; nor are they permitted to carry on any offensive war, though they are authorised to embody troops for self-defence. It is also provided that there can in no case be a greater number of white officers in the army than blacks; so that the natives have no room to fear that the army shall become an engine of oppression. By this system of equality be-

tween whites and blacks, it is proposed to abolish all political distinctions between them, a black being in all cases, entitled to the same privileges as a white man.

Under these regulations, the Company have taken such measures as to give reason to think that there will be at least *one thousand* foreign settlers established there, within the course of one or two months from the present time, independent of the native Africans who may chuse to take up their residence in this district. These foreign settlers consist of the three descriptions of persons that follow :

1st About five or six years ago, an imperfect attempt was made to form a settlement of Europeans on the coast of Sierra Leona, by a few individuals, at the head of whom was the late patriotic Jonas Hanway, Esq; who, without the authority of government, or the protection of the state, procured, by a private transaction, from the natives of that country, permission to occupy a small part of the country on the south bank of the river. The intention of this purchase was to provide an asylum to a great number of *Lascars*, who had been brought from India as sailors, chiefly by the Swedes, discharged at Dover, and were left in a destitute state as beggars on the streets of London. About three hundred of these destitute Asiatics, with some free negroes from Africa in the same destitute state, were collected together, and sent to the coast of Africa, by the humane attention of the gentlemen who had espoused their cause. These people got over the first difficulties of new settlers, by means of the assistance given by those who made the establishment, and had a prospect of soon doing very well ; but unfortunately some of these people having been kidnapped, and carried on board a slave ship, they found themselves so much interested in the fate of their companions, as to attack the ship, rescue their companions, and oblige the captain to submit to certain humiliating condescensions, before they would suffer him to depart. This induced the slave traders on that coast to stir up the native princes in that neighbourhood, to attack these poor people, with such superior force, as to render resistance vain. Their habitations were reduced to ashes, many of them were killed, and the remaining survivors

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were scattered abroad, and forced to hide themselves among the reeds that grow on the margin of the river, till they should see if it was possible to obtain any aid from Europe. Often did they write to Mr Grenville Sharpe, to tell him of these disasters; but these letters being put on board of slave ships, all miscarried. At length one man, a negro, ventured himself on board one of these ships, though no stranger to the risk he run, and, fortunately, at last reached England, and communicated the information he had been charged with. A small vessel, the *Lapwing*, Falconbridge, was dispatched in quest of them, with the most essential necessaries for their relief, and the negro as his guide. After much search, about seventy-four out of the three hundred were found, and these men, thus rescued from the jaws of death, have become the first settlers of this district, under the new charter of the Company.

The second set of settlers the Company have resolved to send thither, are the following:

When General Clinton commanded in America, he invited all negroes, by a general proclamation, to join his standard, promising to give them freedom and protection. In consequence of this proclamation, more than a thousand of these unfortunate persons joined his standard: When the peace was concluded, about six hundred of these were sent to Nova Scotia to be settled. To these persons were given lands, which they cultivated; but being looked down upon by the whites, and not sufficiently protected by the governors, their possessions, after they had, in part, cleared them, were, under various pretexts, wrested from them; or they were subjected to so many vexatious insults, that they were obliged to relinquish them. In this way some of these had been forced to occupy anew, no less than three successive farms. They were, in short, so harassed that many of them died in misery; many of them were obliged to go into service, where, under various pretexts, their tickets of freedom were taken from them, and they were reduced to slavery. These poor persons no sooner heard of the offers this Company made for new settlers on the coast of Africa, than they thought the day of their delivery was at hand. One of their number, Thomas Peters

by name, who had been a sergeant in the army, a man of sound judgement and great intrepidity of mind, as well as strength of body, undertook to be the ambassador of his suffering countrymen. Without money to pay for his passage, he, with great difficulty, was permitted to work for it to London. He found out the directors of the Company,—explained his business with distinctness,—laid open many scenes of villany, that had been practiced upon these persons, and adduced such evidence of the facts, as could not be withstood. These were represented to the *Minister*, who, in the most hearty manner, concurred in the views of the Company. A person of respectable rank, Lieutenant Clarkson, brother to the Reverend Mr Clarkson who has so conspicuously distinguished himself in this business, was dispatched with letters of severe reprimand to the governors of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, for their past conduct, in respect to these negroes, and orders to concur with Mr Clarkson, and his faithful assistant Peters, in searching out these persons, and in rescuing them from the hands of their oppressors. About three hundred of these were found, and sent to the coast of Africa, where they are, no doubt, arrived before this time. May their latter days be crowned with peace! It is painful to record transactions so unfavourable, on one part, to the cause of humanity; but truth ought ever to guide the pen of justice, and no respect to nations or to persons, should ever influence it. Too many particulars were stated, respecting these transactions, to leave the smallest doubt of the facts being, in general, as here represented.

The farther views of the Society respecting these articles will be given in a subsequent number.

The reader is requested to advert to a small inaccuracy in the above account. The vendition of territory, mentioned in p. 274 as having happened before the charter was obtained, only took place after the Company had been fully established by law. A sort of vendition of a small territory, had been made by a King Tom to the agents of Mr Hanway, the vendition made to the Company, was a much more solemn and public transaction.

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THE BEE,

OR
LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER.

FOR
SATURDAY, December 31, 1791.

Historical Disquisitions on the British Constitution.

[Continued from p. 171. and Concluded.]

IN our former disquisitions on this subject, we have had occasion to take notice of the imperfect state of the constitution of parliament in antient times, in several respects. The same fluctuation and uncertainty will be observed to have prevailed in regard to all the other functions of that assembly, though it would be tiresome to go through all the particular heads. I shall conclude this essay with a few remarks on some other particulars.

The Manner of enacting Laws.

It has been formerly observed, that under the reign of the first princes of the Norman line, the principal business for which parliaments were usually called, was to grant supplies to the king, and that the prevailing idea was, that each division of the people was a distinct class by itself. The nobility and clergy at first,

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and afterwards the clergy, lords, knights, and burgesses, and that each of these granted, for their own order only, such subsidy as they thought proper.

An idea, somewhat of the same kind, seemed to prevail with respect to legislation, after the parliament began to have some notion of its powers, as a legislative assembly; and it was long before they got a glimpse of that lucid order which now prevails in regard to the enacting of laws. Those who have not turned their attention to this subject, but who have formed their notions of parliamentary conduct from the established mode of procedure, at present, will find some difficulty in believing it possible that they could ever have proceeded in such a loose and inaccurate manner, as they certainly did, in a matter of so much consequence.

In the days of the conqueror, and his son William, royal edicts, as in other kingdoms in Europe, constituted the bulk of the political regulations in force. The weak title that Henry I. and some of his successors, had to the crown of England, induced them to court popularity, so as to make any petitions that parliament offered for redress of grievances to be listened to. The king was, at that time, supposed to have the power of making laws, but the people were thus encouraged to petition for a redress of grievances, and, as it were, to advise which sort of laws he ought to make. It thus came to be customary for those who were called upon to grant supplies, to present, at the same time, their humble supplications that the king would redress such grievances as oppressed them.

These petitions, Judge Hale remarks, were granted, or refused*. Those petitions that were granted

* An instance of such refusal occurs, anno 1377, when the whole states in parliament petitioned, that no burdens be henceforth laid on the people, but by consent of parliament, *refused*. Parl. Hist. vol. 1. p. 328.

were afterwards put into the form of statutes, by the judges and other members of the king's council, inserted in the statute book, and transmitted to the sheriffs for promulgation (b).

We have seen above, that so regardless were the commons of their privileges, as legislators, and so diffident of their abilities, in this capacity, that they repeatedly declined to offer any advice, unless they were assisted with some bishops, or lords. As a farther instance of the ideas they entertained on this head, particularly respecting the burdensome nature of giving attendance in parliament, it is worthy of notice that, anno 1258, twelve men were chosen, by the whole realm, to attend parliament, and to transact the public business. This was done "to spare the cost, or charges to the community (c)"; and in the year 1398 the commons presented a petition to the king, in the house of lords, purporting "that whereas, they had before them divers petitions, as well for special persons and others, not read and answered, and also many other matters, and things that had been moved in presence of the king, which, for shortness of time, could not be determined, that it would please his majesty to commit full power to certain lords, and others, to examine, answer, and dispatch the petitions, matters, and things above said, and all dependencies thereon (d)." So little were they attentive, in those days, to the forms of legislation now used, that the parliament of Westminster, 18 Edward I, on the first day of June, consisted of *prelates, earls, barons*, and other *nobles*. On the 14th the king sent letters, desiring the sheriffs to cause two or three of the most discreet knights to be chosen, and sent to parliament, three weeks after midsummer; but no *burgesses* (e). Whilst these elections were making, the parliament con-

(b) Hale's Hist. cap. L. p. 14. (c) Parl. Hist. vol. 1. p. 63. (d) *ib.* vol. 1. p. 492. (e) Brady Int. p. 129.

tinued sitting; and the statutes of Westminster were then enacted. So little, indeed, did they then know the importance of the legislative power, that anno 1371, a small committee, named by the king, alter at pleasure an act of parliament (f).

I am afraid that these disquisitions will prove little interesting to many of my readers; yet it ought not to be deemed incurious to trace the progress of human ideas in a matter of so much importance as that which now engages our attention. I shall only, however, venture briefly to specify a few miscellaneous circumstances respecting parliaments before I put a final close to this dissertation.

Miscellaneous Remarks.

Errors arising from permanent Names to varying Objects.

1st, It cannot be too often repeated, that many mistakes arise from annexing ideas to words that they now bear, when we look back to distant periods, when they were first used with a very different signification. The word *parliament*, for example, wherever it occurs, seems, to a hasty observer, always to denote an assembly, consisting of the same constituent members, and subjected to the like regulations as our parliament is at present; but nothing can be more erroneous than this mode of judging. At the period when assemblies of this nature began, a parliament probably was a tumultuary meeting of all the free men in the state, which was subjected to no rules but such as the circumstances, at the time, suggested. This word afterwards denoted a meeting of the great feudatories of the crown, or tenants in capite. At a future period, the prelates came to bear a great sway in the nation; and these, together with the larger barons, and the king, constituted a parliament.

(f) Parl. Hist. vol. 1. p. 308.

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During all this period, though there had never been any law excluding the *smaller* tenants in capite, from parliament, they had found it expedient to absent themselves from this meeting; and finding it very burthensome to attend these meetings, they wished to be altogether excused from this troublesome duty: but as the practice for granting subsidies began to creep in, and as these grants were supposed to be binding only upon those orders of the state, which had voluntarily granted them, it was for the interest of the crown that none should escape. Henceforward the king, instead of requiring these lesser owners of property to attend in person, ordered them to choose deputies, who, by being properly authorised, might act for the whole of that body. These were called knights of the shires, and burgesses of cities, or, in other words, representatives. During all these, and other changes respecting procedure, too tedious to be here mentioned, the assembly continued to be called a *parliament*.

Duration of Parliaments.

2d, Many disputes have arisen, and much altercation daily at present takes place, respecting the old and original duration of parliaments. It is well known, that, at present, the same parliament may continue to exist for seven years, and no longer. At a former period, not far distant, it could not exceed three years: and many persons believe the parliament formerly must have been renewed annually†. But when we recollect, that originally the tenants in capite, were, by birth entitled to sit in

† This opinion of annual parliaments has been cherished by observing that it is stipulated in Magna Charta, and enforced by many remonstrances subsequent to it, "that parliaments shall be held once a year at least, or oftener, if need be." This was only a requisition that the constituent members of parliament should be called together, not that a new parliament should be made. But even this requisition was scarcely in any case complied with.

parliament, and that none else were admitted into that assembly: That afterwards prelates were, *ex officio*, members of the national council, it will appear evident that there could be then no new parliament, in the sense that phrase bears at this time; but that the same parliament always continued, with the partial changes that deaths and successions must have occasioned. At a future period, when representatives were chosen for the smaller barons, and for cities, these were ordered by the king either to be chosen anew, by the sheriff, or the same persons were required to come as long, or as short a time as the crown pleased; so that the changes might be either total or partial as suited the pleasure of the prince. It is only of late that even an idea has begun to prevail of the necessity of an entire new election of representatives; and consequently it is only since that time that a new parliament, according to modern ideas, could be created. This is a curious subject for discussion, but too copious for our limits.

Change of Ideas respecting the Privilege of sitting in Parliament.

3d, In modern times, a seat, as a representative in parliament, is courted as an honour, and it is purchased, as is generally alledged, at a very high price; hence we are apt to imagine that this must have been always the case. Some are even so short sighted as to suppose, that if there was no idea of influence in the house, or of emoluments that might arise from that station, that men of moderate fortunes, merely from patriotic principles would be eager to perform the great duties of parliamentary business. This, however, others will alledge, could not be expected. And their reasoning accords with the practice in former times. For a long while after representatives were returned to parliament it seems to have been a matter of great difficulty to compel them to attend; so that it became necessary to enforce their attendance by

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penal statutes, even while, as a farther indemnification for the loss of time, the representatives were paid by the constituents, for his trouble. Still, however, they were so averse to this business, that we have seen them devising various plans for shortening their sessions, or for avoiding the necessity of coming up soon †.

Precedents.

4th, Many persons have imagined that the purity of parliament can only be maintained by having recourse to *precedents* in all difficult cases, and being governed by them: nothing can be more preposterous than this doctrine. The privileges we now enjoy have been obtained by an uninterrupted series of new regulations,

‡ The following is the form used on dismissing the parliament in the year 1305:

" All archbishops, bishops, and other prelates, earls, barons, knights of shires, citizens and burgesses, and all other of the commons, of which are come by the command of our sovereign lord the king || to this parliament, the king gives them many thanks for their coming, and wills that, as they have desired, they may return into their own country; going forthwith, and without delay, notwithstanding other commands, except the bishops, earls, barons, justices, and others who are of the king's council, and those must not depart without leave of the king. Those also who have business have leave to follow it. And the knights which are come for the shires, and others for the cities and boroughs, may apply themselves to Sir John Kirkeby, who will give them briefs to receive their wages in their several counties. And the aforefaid John de Kirkeby, is hereby commanded to deliver to the chancellor, the names of all the knights of shires, and of all the citizens, and burgesses that come for such briefs, for their expences." Parl. Hist. vol. 1. p. 127.

|| [Would not this clause seem to infer, that the king either did exercise a right, or then claimed it, of summoning others of the commons, besides knights of shires, and burgesses if he pleased?]]

either calculated to supply defects that were not sooner observed, or to correct evils that experience had discovered. Precedents may be found for almost every constitutional fault that could be named; and it was by a rigid adherence to this doctrine that the unfortunate family of Stuart was misled and ruined. Whoever shall maintain this doctrine, will soon find, that among the number of contradictory precedents it is impossible to tell which should be adopted or rejected, without having recourse to his reasoning powers.— Since then, reason must at last determine on the propriety of any measure, as suited to the state of the country at the time, it is surely the shortest, and the safest road, to have recourse to its decisions at once, for discovering a proper rule to be adhered to.

General Conclusion.

Upon the whole, we may be able to perceive from the foregoing induction, that nothing is less secure than the liberties of a people: when they are put into such circumstances as do not necessarily insure that constant attention to the imperceptible changes which the perpetually varying state of society must ever require. Our forefathers, and the founders of all the great kingdoms that now exist in Europe, enjoyed that kind of equality of rights, which, it is now in general supposed constitutes the highest degree of political freedom. Every free man in the state was entitled, personally, to be present in the national assembly, a vote of which could not only make, but also unmake the king at pleasure; and without the express concurrence of which no enterprise of consequence could be undertaken. There never was a law of which any traces can be perceived abridging any part of this liberty, till long after, by a gradual and unobserved dirbiction of these privileges, the very idea of them had been entirely lost. Circumstances had rendered it inconvenient for individuals to exercise those func-

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tions, that were once prized as of the highest importance, and they were disregarded. The king, who was at first only a temporary office-bearer, was continued in office, to avoid the trouble that would have attended frequent new elections. He was empowered, in the absence of those who had the privilege to controul his power, to exercise the executive departments of government until he should be forbid to do so.—Constantly attentive to his own concerns, his power thus gradually acquired fresh additions, while that of the people, each of whom was occupied about his own present concerns, dwindled almost to nothing. The king was thus invited not only to execute of himself the ordinary active functions of government, but he was even desired, or at least allowed, without opposition, to make laws, that his subjects might be freed from the trouble of doing so for themselves. In this manner, by a procedure the most natural that can be imagined, has been gradually established the despotism of Spain, Portugal, France, and Germany, all of which nations possessed, originally, a species of government, in every respect the same with that of G. Britain. And if Britain has chanced to avoid the same fate, she owes it more to a happy coincidence of *disasters*, which we may now call *happy circumstances*, that occurred through accident, than to any preconcerted design; have seen that in Britain, twelve men were, at one time, chosen to transact the whole business of the realm, in “order that the community might be saved the charge.” The same thing happened in France, and the people there never perceived the consequences of this, or attempted to reclaim their former privileges*. In Germany, from the same motive, this power was intrusted to seven. These seven still continue, and are now dignified with the name of elec-

* The present claims of the French rest on a different foundation.

tors, while our twelve, by a fortunate accident, were soon dismissed, and their office annihilated.

Let nations, from an attentive perusal of the records of these events, learn to be dissident in their notions of the permanency of any system of government that is calculated to lull the attention of the people asleep, by cherishing an idea that is, or ever can be perfect. The exertions of power are unceasing, the sources of corruption are unfathomable, and the manner in which this poison may be administered is so inconceivably varied, that there is no means of counteracting it but by being continually on the watch. When, therefore, any one shall see a system of government arise, that the people who are to be subjected to its influence shall, in general, deem perfect, it requires no depth of political sagacity to foretel that the termination of that government is at hand. "Let him that thinks he standeth take heed lest he fall." Let those who enjoy a *reasonable* share of political freedom be continually on their guard to correct the abuses that the active powers of government, wherever they are lodged, must ever engender. If a man acts with a becoming steadiness in guarding against these rising abuses, he will perform the part of a good citizen while he lives, and will deserve to have his memory revered after his death.

J. A.

An Account of the Ceremony performed at the Moorish Court of Abdelgualit Abninazr, on the administering the Oath of Fidelity to his Son Jacob Almanzor, as his Heir and Successor to his Throne.

It is, in general, believed that the Mahometan government, under the Caliphs, was an absolute despotism. From the ceremonies described in the following pages it is evident this is a mistake. The feudal system plain-

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ly prevailed, at this time, in Africa; and every incident that here occurs, clearly indicates that the regal authority was, in some measure, elective, though the influence of a particular family had attained such an ascendancy, as to render it nearly, as at present, hereditary. The ceremony is nearly the same as the election of a king of the Romans. The same ideas evidently prevailed among the Moors, in regard to this transaction, as were common in every part of Europe during what we call the middle ages. Those who had once sworn fealty to a prince, were understood to have become his vassals; and he, in consequence of thus becoming their leige lord, becomes bound, by a solemn oath, reciprocally to perform, in a proper manner, the functions of his office with respect to his subjects. The obligation is mutual, and reciprocal. The remains of this ceremony still is discoverable in every European nation in the oath of allegiance of the people, and the coronation oath of the prince. We still continue these ceremonies from habit, long after the sacred bonds, that an oath used once to confer, have come to be, in a great measure, disregarded.

Extract from the History of the Conquest of Spain by the Moors, written by Abulcacim Tarif Abentarique, in the Eighth Century.

THE king Abelgualit Abninazr, being wearied with the labour of these wars now concluded, and considering that he had no other son or heir to succeed him in his kingdom, except the prince Jacob Almanzor, and fearing that death might cut him off, as is natural to man, summoned a grand council of the nation, in order that all the nobles, and governors of the kingdom should swear fealty to him, after the days of king Abelgualit as his son and heir.

All the nobles and governors, and principal men in these nations, having been called together into the royal palace of the king, a *morabite*, (that is a cer-

tain species of monks of the Mahometan persuasion, so called) named Mahomet el Gazeli, who was much beloved, and very intimate with the king, addressed them in his name, giving them to understand for what purpose they had been called together, viz. to swear fealty to the prince named Jacob Almanzor, as king of these dominions, after the death of his father; and having understood the intention of the king, they all answered, with one common consent, that they were very well content to do what the king desired of them, as contributing to the welfare of the whole kingdom.

In order to perform this ceremony, the king Abelgualit, richly dressed, entered into the assembly, and seated himself upon his royal throne, and the prince, Jacob Almanzor, seated himself on his right-hand, and all the nobility, governors, and great men being present, the morabite, Mahomet el Gazeli, who was seated on the left-hand of the king, rose up and said, in a high voice, that all might hear him, Cavaliers, honoured nobles, and worthy gentlemen here present, the king Abelgualit, lord of these kingdoms, desires to know if it is your pleasure to swear fealty to Jacob Almanzor his legitimate son, who is here present, as your king, and lord of these dominions, after the days of the king Abelgualit his father: "are you content to take this oath?" to this question they all replied in a loud voice, "we are content." Immediately the morabite answered and said, "then, in testimony of your oath, and his possession, do all that which the king Abelgualit and I shall do." The king then arose, took his son by the hand, and seated him on his royal throne, then the prince, taking the right-hand of his father, kissed it, in testimony of obedience, and the father, in token of benediction, laid his hand upon the head of Almanzor. Then the king Abelgualit kissed the hand of his son, and seated himself upon his right-hand. The morabite then did the

same, and seated himself upon the left-hand of the prince. And afterwards, all the nobles, in the order of their rank, did the same that the king and the morabite had done.

These things being finished, an *alfaqui*, (a priest of the highest order) clothed in rich robes, entered with a book in his hand, called *Alcoran*, which he placed upon a royal table, in the middle of the palace. Then the morabite el Gazeli rose again, and spoke with a loud voice, that all might hear him, and said, "Honoured nobles, and respected *hidalgos*, you swear by the sovereign God, and by all that is contained in this book, that you accept, as your king, and will maintain him as sovereign lord of all these dominions, the prince Jacob Almanzor, as legitimate son, successor, and heir of the king Abelgualit Abninazr his father, our lord, who are both present," to which they all answered "yes; we swear, and will obey him;"—the morabite answered, "then let him who shall not fulfill his oath be accounted perjured, infamous, a traitor to his king; and may the malediction of the sovereign Lord of Heaven fall upon him, and his;" to which they all answered, "amen!" Then the morabite said, in a loud voice, "In testimony of the oath you have taken, let every one of you do what the king and I shall do." The king then rose, kissed the book, put it upon his head, laid it again upon the table, and returned to his seat. The morabite immediately did the same, and also all the nobles in their order.

This ceremony being ended, the morabite again rose, and turning to the prince Jacob Almanzor, said, "Your highness swears by the supreme God, and by all that is contained in this book, that, as king, and natural lord of these kingdoms, you will maintain justice to all your subjects, and guard all those privileges which the kings your predecessors have justly conferred upon them, so that all your vassals may live in

peace and security, without receiving injury from any one." And the prince said, "I swear it." Then the morabite answered, "if you shall fail to fulfil this oath may the malediction of the supreme God fall upon your highness, as a perjured person." The prince answered, "Amen!" Then the morabite said, "in proof of the fulfilment of your oath, your highness will do what I shall do;" and so saying, he took the book in his hands, kissed it, put it upon his head, and then presented it to the prince, who also kissed it, put it upon his head, and then returned it to its place.

The prince then left the throne, and leading the way, went out, followed by all the alcaldes, to the sound of many musical instruments. Then mounting their horses, they went through the whole court, in noble procession, towards the grand mosque, where alighting, they entered, and performed their devotions. From thence they returned to the royal palace, where the prince was received by the king Abelgualit, who waited for him. The attendants there retiring for that day.

The next day, this transaction was celebrated with great entertainments, a grand tournament, and many other inventions. Three days being passed in great rejoicings, they were at last called to the royal palace once more, to confirm and ratify their oath; and being all assembled, the morabite e! Gazeli rose, and spoke to them in a loud voice, after this manner: "Cavaliers, alcaldes, and honourable men who are present, do you confirm the oath which you have taken in favour of the prince our lord, Jacob Almanzor, who is present?" And they all said, "we confirm it." Then the morabite said, "in confirmation of, and to conclude this oath, all of you do that which the king Abelgualit and I shall do." Then the king rising up, took the book in his hands, kissed it, and returning it to the table, kissed the hand of the

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ELECTION OF ALMANZOR.

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prince his son. The morabite then did the same, and all the alcaldes followed in their order.

These things accomplished, they all departed, each to his own home, leaving the king and the prince very well contented, who conferred many presents upon their vassals. All which was done in the first ten days of the moon Rahib, the first of the year 104 of the Hegira.

PHILOSOPHICAL GEOGRAPHY.

Hints respecting the Study of Geography, Part Second.

[Continued from p. 208.]

IN artificial objects, their external appearance is often beautiful, and seemingly perfect, but when they are nearly examined, their defects begin to appear, their imperfections become disgusting, and their tendency to decay requires the perpetual intervention of external aid to prevent them from falling into total ruin. Every thing is directly the reverse of this in regard to the works of nature. They often present an uncouth and ungracious appearance at first view: they seem rather calculated for destruction than beneficence, and to the unthinking observer, all is anarchy and confusion. It is only when they are minutely and attentively examined that their beauty begins to be perceived, and the extreme beneficence of the Creator to be discovered. So wonderfully are all things formed, that every excess naturally operates its own cure, without any external intervention. And the destruction of one object only serves to promote the renovation of another, in an endless vicissitude of alterations, without any material change.

The philosophical geographer has no sooner obtained a clear idea of the true position of this earth, with

regard to the sun, than he perceives that, independent of the effects of refraction, there are the same number of hours of sunshine, and of darkness, during the course of a whole year, on every part of the globe. The inhabitants of the polar and equatorial regions are, in this respect, entirely alike, but in all other respects they differ. He has no difficulty in perceiving, that had the small portion of heat that affects the polar regions been equally divided through every day, a great part of these regions must have been totally destitute of vegetables for the sustenance of any living creature, and must therefore have been entirely divested of inhabitants of any sort. To guard against this inconvenience, the heat of the whole year is there accumulated, as it were, into a point. The sun, during the summer season, acts upon the earth without intermission. Day is then perpetual, and no night intervenes to check the influence of the sun for one moment. By this means, the heat then becomes sufficient to nourish vegetables; they rush rapidly forward to perfection †. The seeds are ripened so as to preserve the species: annuals are brought to perfection: perennials make their advances by steps from year to year: animals are encouraged to propagate their kind during the genial season; plants and fruits are provided for their sustenance, which, by the provident instinct of some, and the wise forecast of others, can be stored up for their subsistence; while other animals are rendered torpid, and require no food at all during the cold and rigorous season that is to succeed, when the sun withdraws his influence from one hemisphere, that he may communicate life and vigour to that on the opposite side of the sphere. Thus is the earth, in consequence of that periodical devastation, which seems to threaten all animate nature with inevitable destruction, rendered habitable by man; and other animals

† In Lapland, corn rushes forward with such rapidity as often to be reaped in six weeks from the time of sowing it.

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in the remote polar regions, which otherwise must have been an inhospitable desert of eternal frost.

Had the same vicissitudes, however, been experienced at the equator, as at the poles; had the day been there lengthened, at one season, to six months without the intervention of night; had these regions been subjected, for so long a time, to the uninterrupted influence of a burning sun, all plants must have been scorched, and the whole of that region must, in like manner, have been a barren desert, unfit for the sustentation of animal life. But here also the wisdom and beneficence of the Creator are equally conspicuous. To moderate this excessive heat, the days there are all of equal length throughout the year. To the warm day, a long night invariably succeeds, in which the copious dews refresh the wallowed plants that had been exhausted during the day. By this perpetual vicissitude of twelve hours sunshine, and twelve hours night, an uninterrupted vegetation is kept up throughout the whole year, without allowing that insupportable heat to be experienced, which the ancients, from their ignorance of this physical construction of the globe, conceived to be unavoidable. It is by a gradual deviation between these two extremes, the natural result of the particular position of the earth's axis combined with its annual and diurnal revolutions that all those varieties of climate, which geographers enumerate as originating from the different length of day on the earth's surface, during the summer season, have been derived. Those may be called *mathematical* divisions of climates. There are other physical causes that co-operate with these, that alike tend to moderate the heat of torrid, and to meliorate the temperature of the polar regions, which contribute still farther to render the earth's surface more proper for the nourishing of plants, and a more agreeable theatre for men and other animals to inhabit than it otherwise would have

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been. Some of which shall be here briefly enumerated.

Although the sun is precisely an equal number of hours above the horizon, during the course of a year, at the equator and the pole, yet the latter enjoys a great many more hours sunshine, and a much longer period of light than the former. This is owing to the refractive power of the air, which makes the sun to be seen as apparently above the horizon, when it has actually sunk a good many degrees beneath it. As the sun, at the equator, descends perpendicularly at setting, and rises in the same direction in the morning, he there disappears in a few minutes, after he passes the horizon; but at the pole he descends in such an oblique direction, as to continue to be seen for weeks together after he is, strictly speaking, beneath the horizon.— Thus, is the season of heat, in polar regions, protracted much longer than by strict mathematical reasoning it ought to be, while at the equator, scarce a minute is gained beyond the exact mathematical length of the day. The twilight is proportionally shortened in the torrid zone, and the coolness of the night suddenly approaches, to condense the dew in copious streams, and to refresh the plants by the protracted coolness, so as to make them entirely recover from the sickening effects of a vertical sun. Blessed be the father of mercies, who hath thus created the vicissitudes of seasons so admirably calculated to answer the various wants of his creatures!

But the coolness of the night, in tropical regions, is not the only means that nature hath provided for mitigating the heat of the torrid zone. The great heat which there for ever prevails, operates, itself, in producing another mean of refreshing the inhabitants and moderating its influence. The sun, where he darts his rays perpendicularly upon the surface of the solid earth, has these rays so powerfully reflected

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back again as to heat the air near the earth there, to an extraordinary degree. And as the air is heated it is also rarified. It occupies, then, a much larger space than formerly. Becoming thus lighter, it rises upwards, into the superior regions of the atmosphere, where, being higher than the denser air, on each side, and meeting above with no lateral pressure, it extends itself towards the poles, on either side, while below, the cooler and more dense air rushes in from the polar regions to supply the vacancy that the rarefaction has occasioned. Thus is there established a perpetual circulation, the current of air, below, rushing continually towards the equator, on either side, along the surface of the earth, which, by its coolness, perpetually moderates the heat of the tropical regions, that proves highly refreshing to vegetables, and invigorating to man, while above, the warm air goes towards the polar regions, where it is gradually refrigerated, so as to be fitted once more to refresh the globe in an endless circulation. Thus is produced, those inviolable winds, which, in the torrid zone, from the uses that have been made of them, are, by us, denominated *trade winds*.

Nor are the above *all* the means that nature hath provided for moderating the heats of torrid regions, and rendering them habitable by man and other animals. This general trade wind, though denominated inviolable, is only strictly entitled to that epithet on the equal surface of the sea, where that is of great extent, without any land intervening. Wherever land occurs it occasions variations, in this respect, that are highly interesting as objects of speculation to the philosopher, and as objects of delight and utility to man.

Wherever the sun, in his diurnal course, acts vertically upon the surface of the solid earth, his rays are much more powerfully reflected than they are from an equal surface of *water*, of course the air which is immediately above the surface of that land is much

more heated than that portion of the air which is above the water in the same latitude. Hence it must happen, that near the surface of the earth, during the day time, there will be a current of air established every where in the torrid zone, from the sea towards the land; so that, in those circumstances, the course of the general trade wind is, for a time, interrupted, and those gentle winds are produced, which are every where known, within the tropics, by the name of the *sea breeze* as blowing always from the sea towards the land, and which, from its refreshing influence upon man, has been called the *dolera*.

During the night, the case is directly the reverse. The sun, which, during the day, by acting on the stable surface of the solid land, heated it to a greater degree than the water, whose floating particles perpetually in motion do not admit of being heated to so great a degree on the surface, though its temperature be communicated to a greater depth, now that his influence is withdrawn during the night, that surface of earth which had been so quickly heated is also sooner cooled than the deeper zone of heated water; which by exposing, every moment, a new superficies, sustains a diminution of its heat more slowly than that of the land. Thus it happens that the sea becomes warmer than the land during the night; so that the wind, changing its direction, blows from the cooler land towards the sea, during the night. And of course, this wind, when it blows, is called the *land breeze*. In this manner is produced that uninterrupted succession of diurnal and nocturnal breezes, which for ever prevail in a lesser or greater degree on every sea-coast within the tropics. How wonderfully beautiful are these arrangements of nature; how beneficial their effects!

It is by no means my intention, in this essay, to describe, minutely, all the variations that necessarily flow

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from these changes, but merely to explain a few leading principles from which the others flow. I stop not, therefore, to paint the suffocating stillness that prevails during the interval which passes between the ceasing of the one breeze and the springing up of the other, nor to describe the gradual accession, and diminution of strength, which they severally undergo, as the day, or the night advances and declines. These are necessary, and obvious consequences of the principles explained. Neither do I stop to point out the greater or smaller extension of these breezes from the shore, or their augmentation, or diminution of strength as they chance to oppose or coincide with the general trade wind; nor their deflections, where they interfere with the trade wind, from the shape of the coast; nor their less extent upon head lands than in bays, &c. &c. all of which will be so clear to one who understands the principles, as to stand in need of no explanation.

An account of the trade winds will be given in a succeeding number.

The following view of the present state of America, in regard to certain particulars, will, we doubt not, be acceptable to many of our readers. The ingenious writer of this, and many other humorous performances is now no more. A correct edition of his works is now printing at Philadelphia.

I have seen, and I have not seen.

By the late Governor Livingston.

I have seen several of our assemblies endeavouring, at public economy, by lowering the salaries of the officers of government, and other littlenesses of the like nature, and colling the public more in their own wages, by the time they spent in making the reduction (which ought not to have been made at all,) than such reduction finally amounted to. *But I have not*

seen one of them calling, to a serious account, the sheriffs who have defrauded us of hundreds, by pocketing fines; or the commissioners for forfeited estates, who have plundered us of thousands, by trading with the money, converting it into real estate, and afterwards paying us at a great depreciation. Why are not these people immediately compelled to pay this money according to the value at which they received it? This would really be an object worthy of a legislature. This would go a great way towards filling the fiscal coffer, and easing the poor citizen of his taxes.

I have seen Tories, members of Congress; Tories, sitting as judges upon our tribunals; Tories representatives in our legislative council; Tories members of our assemblies. But *I have not seen* them bribed with British money; nor was such actual vision necessary for my conviction that they were so.

I have seen our soldiers marching barefoot through snow, and over ice: *I have not seen* them duly recompensed for it; nor America so grateful in rewarding the inexpressible hardships they suffered, as I thought she should have been.

I have seen Congress recommending to the several states, such salutary measures as would have been of infinite service to the union to have adopted. *I have not seen* the states adopt these measures.

I have seen commerce declining; and, worse than declining, prosecuted to undoing; idleness prevailing; self-interest predominating; luxury increasing; and patriotism languishing. But *when shall I see* the true spirit of republicans emerging from its late ignobly contracted torpor, and blazing out with the same splendor, the same world astonishing coruscations, with which it so gloriously illustrated the first morning of its appearance?

I have seen justices of the peace who were a mere burlesque upon all magistracy. Justices illiterate—

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I HAVE AND HAVE NOT SEEN.

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justices partial—justices groggy—justices courting popularity, in order to be chosen assembly men—justices encouraging litigiousness. But I *have not seen* any joint meeting sufficiently cautious against opposing such mean justices of the peace.

I *have seen* four times as many taverns in the state as were necessary. Those superabundant taverns are continually haunted by idlers; and are confessedly so many nuisances. All well-regulated governments would abolish them; yet I *have not seen* any of the courts that licence them willing to retrench the super-numerary ones.

I *have seen* the regency of Algiers making a cruel and unprovoked war upon the United States. I *have not seen* the secret hand of Great Britain in exciting those infidels to this war, to render her own bottoms the more necessary for carrying on our commerce, and for other purposes by the said act intended.

I *have seen* paper money emitted by a legislature that solemnly promised to redeem it; I *have seen* them afterwards depreciate it themselves; and therefore I believe I shall never see the redemption of it.

I *have seen* assemblies enacting laws for the amendment of the practice in courts of justice. But I *have never yet seen* that practice really amended by them.

I *have seen*, since our revolution, Tories promoted to offices of trust and profit; but I *have never seen* the man who dares to avow either the justice or the propriety of such promotion.

I *have seen* hundreds paying their debts with continental money, at the depreciated rate of above sixty for one. But *how many have I seen* who had two much integrity to avail themselves of that subterfuge which the law unintentionally afforded them; and who, instead of infringing the golden rule, though protected by human edicts to sin against it, nobly disclaimed to violate the solemn dictates of their own consciences, and against light, and knowledge, and gospel, to defraud

his neighbour of his due? How many? Not enough to constitute a legal jury.

I have seen Congress necessitated to borrow money from France, or Holland; but I have not seen this State take proper measures for discharging its proportion of these engagements.

I have not seen any of our continental officers who were, during the war, posted upon our lines for the express purpose of preventing the illegal commerce with the enemy in New York, themselves carrying on that infamous traffic.

I will not tell all that I have seen. The veracity of an historian is often called in question when he speaks of disorders in government, that appear incredible. He is obliged to relate facts, which, because they are extraordinary, though true, are received as exaggeration and romance. I hope for the future to see virtue and patriotism resume their primeval glory; and our independence procured at the expence of so much blood and treasure, for ever and ever established in righteousness.

Reading Memorandums.

Let men talk what they will of fortitude—supposing the suffering equal, women support evils with infinitely more fortitude than men.

Beware of the dreadful effects of passion, and of those inward passions which dethrone our reason, and set at nought the boasted precepts of philosophy.

I cannot imitate those cold and rigid mortals, whose laws are all engraven on brass, and who never step an inch beyond the narrow limits of their own principles.—With them—Pity is a weakness, and severity assumes the title of justice.

(To be continued.)

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A TRANSLATION OF METASTASIO'S ODE TO LIBERTY.

By the Reverend Mr M' Arden.

I.

THANKS Bella to thy treacherous arts,
At length I breath again,
The pitying Gods have ta'en my part,
And eas'd a wretches pain,
I feel, I feel that from its chains,
My rescued soul is free,
Nor is it now I idly dream
Fair liberty, of thee.

II.

Extinguished is my ancient flame,
All calm my thoughts remain,
And artful love in vain shall strive,
To lurk beneath disdain.
No longer, when thy name I hear,
My conscious colour flies:
No longer, when thy face I see,
My heart's emotions rise.

III.

I sleep, yet not in every dream
Thy pictured image see;
I wake, nor does my alter'd mind
Fix it's first thoughts on thee.
From thee, far distant when I roam,
No fond concern I know:
With thee I stay, nor yet from thence
Does pain or pleasure flow.

IV.

Oft of my Bella's charms I speak,
Nor thrills my steadfast heart;
Oft I review the wrongs I bore,
Yet feel no inward smart;
No quick alarms confound my sense
When Bella near I see:
E'en with my rival I can smile
And calmly talk of thee.

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V.

Speak to me with placid mien,
 Or treat me with disdain,
 Vain is to me the look severe,
 The gentle smile as vain:
 Lost is the empire o'er my mind
 Which once those lips possess,
 Those eyes no longer can divine
 Each secret of my breast.

VI.

What pleases now or grieves my mind,
 What makes me sad or gay,
 It is not in thy pow'r to give,
 Nor canst thou take away:
 Each pleasant spot without thee charms,
 The Wood, the mead, the hill,
 And scenes of dulness, e'en with thee,
 Are scenes of dulness still.

VII.

Judge if I speak with tongue sincere?
 Thou still art wonderful fair,
 Great are the beauties of thy form,
 But not beyond compare:
 And let not truth offend thine ear,
 My eyes at length incline
 To spy some faults in that loved face,
 Which once appear'd divine.

VIII.

When from it's secret deep recess,
 I tore the painfull dart,
 (My shameful weakness I confess)
 It seem'd to split my heart;
 But to relieve a tortured mind,
 To triumph o'er disdain,
 To gain my captive self, once more,
 I'd suffer every pain.

IX.

Caught by the birdlines treacherous twig,
 To which he chanc'd to stray,
 The bird his fastned feathers leaves,
 Then gladly flies away;

His shortened wings he soon renews,
Of snares no more afraid,
Then grows by past experience wise,
Nor is again betray'd.

x.

I know thy pride can ne'er believe
My passion's fully o'er,
Because I oft repeat the tale,
And still add something more;
'Tis natural instinct prompts my tongue,
And makes the story last,
As all mankind are fond to boast,
Of dangers they have past.

xi.

The warrior thus, the combat o'er,
Recounts his bloody wars,
Tells all the hardships, that he bore,
And shews his ancient scars.
Thus the glad slave by prosperous fate
Freed from his servile chain,
Shews to each friend the galling weight,
Which once he dragged with pain.

xii.

I speak, yet speaking all my aim,
I want to please my mind,
I speak, but care not if my words
With thee can credit find:
I speak, nor ask if my discourse
Is e'er approved by thee,
Or whether thou with equal ease
Dost talk again of me.

xiii.

I leave a light inconstant maid;
Thou'st lost a heart sincere:
I know not which wants comfort most
Or which has most to fear.
I'm sure a swain so fond and true,
Will Bella never find,
A nymph like her is quickly found,
False, faithless and unkind.

Farther Account of the Proceedings of the Sierra Leona Company, respecting that Settlement, since the passing of the Bill.

Continued from p. 314.

A THIRD body of persons of a different description are now on their way to these settlements. These consist of British subjects, who, from disgust with their situation here, or from the hopes of bettering their condition in that settlement, or from a species of enthusiastic desire to concur in a work that they may deem so meritorious, as that of civilizing the barbarians, and abolishing those horrid practices that the slave trade has engendered, have petitioned to be sent thither. So many applications have been made to the directors in London that they have been obliged to reject many, and have been enabled to choose only those who have brought sufficient attestations of industry, sobriety, and good moral character. Of persons of this description, about six hundred have been enrolled; so that, at the present time, there are about one thousand settlers either arrived at, or on their way to Sierra Leona, for the purpose of cultivating the soil, and carrying on the arts of peace. It is to be hoped that so large a body, at once, under the immediate influence of a wise and humane governor may be able to lay the foundations of a city, that will, in time, give rise to arts, to commerce on an extensive scale, and, by degrees, to the gradual civilization of that extensive continent.

After having formed an establishment on their own territory, the Company are to attempt the civilization of the people, by directing their attention to the peaceful arts, and industry. The neighbouring princes have all expressed a wish to establish a friendly intercourse and commerce, for the natural productions and manufactures of the country, rather than for slaves. One of these princes, a young man of amiable dispositions, solid understanding, and high hopes, is now in England, busied in acquiring knowledge, which he pursues with an avidity that is rarely to be met with. He abominates the horrid merchandise in human beings,

Sierra Leona Com-
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which he and his forefathers have too long tolerated. As soon as he has learned the language, and informed himself in the principles of religion, agriculture, arts, and commerce, he returns home; and if he lives, it is to be hoped that by his example and influence, the views of the Company will be promoted.

The natives are to be invited to cultivate an intercourse with British subjects, under the certainty that their persons will be safe and their property protected. A liberal price is proposed to be given, either in money, or in goods by barter, for all the productions of the country that they shall bring to market, which can find a ready sale in Europe; and as the principal factory will be on the banks of the river, it is not to be supposed, if the governor, and other servants of the Company, can be kept to their duty, and compelled to adhere to the views of the directors, by adhering strictly to the principles of equity, and avoiding to take any advantage of the ignorance or necessities of the natives, but they will soon furnish a great many articles of value, besides those already known. Among others, *Teak wood*, that most valuable of all kinds of timber for ship-building, which has never yet been obtained nearer than India, though it is already known with certainty, from the enquiries of the agents of the Company, to grow in perfection in that country.

When a friendly intercourse can once be established, by means of treaties with the internal kingdoms of Africa, it is proposed to begin a commercial intercourse with the most distant nations by means of caravans, appointed to meet by concert with other caravans from the adjoining country, in all directions, at particular places, and at specified times. This kind of fairs will be continued in regular succession, in point of time, along the route of the caravans, as they can conveniently reach them. Thus, will the knowledge of beneficial commerce be spread through the whole wide extended regions of that hitherto unknown country: The natives, from the hope of gain, will be excited to industry; civilization and knowledge must be necessary consequences.

Such are the views of this enlightened and beneficial Society. And though it cannot be expected that they

shall be able to accomplish all they wish for ; yet it must be admitted that the design is as noble in its conception, as any that ever graced the annals of humanity ; and that at all events it must prove beneficial to the natives of the country. For my own part, I scruple not to acknowledge, that when I contemplate the prospect with attention, ideas burst upon the mind that are of the most exhilarating kind. I think I see the seeds of a great revolution in the universe, that may, in time, reverse the order of things that now prevail. While Europe shall sink into the abyss which luxury at length prepares for all mankind, then may Africa prove an asylum to the virtuous part of mankind ; and after an interval of ages, she may once more, as she has already done, diffuse the light of knowledge upon Europe. Such are the changes that experience teaches us to look for on the globe. Asia, which was the cradle of mankind, is now inferior to Europe : Egypt, which was long renowned for knowledge and for arts, is now sunk in the most deplorable ignorance and debasement : Palestine, which for a time overflowed with milk and honey, is now a desert waste : Tyre, whose merchants were princes, is now a den of thieves : Greece, which for a few centuries, contained within itself almost all the learning and the arts that existed on the globe, is now in a state of the most humiliating ignorance : Carthage, which long disputed the empire of the world with Rome itself, is so totally ruined, that the very place of it can scarce be known : Rome itself is fallen !—and the nations which she deemed the most ignorant barbarians, are now become her instructors in knowledge, in arts, in arms. What Britain was to Rome, Africa may be to Britain. Let us not, therefore, vainly arrogate to ourselves, a superiority of endless duration : Let us respect human creatures, wherever we meet with them, as beings capable of rising to the highest exaltation of which finite existences can boast, when they shall be placed in circumstances favourable to the developement of their faculties. Yes,—let us embrace the negro, and say to the scorched African, *Am I not thy brother?* Let us mutually aid and assist each other to attain those blessings, which in every part of the world prove the solace and comfort of the human mind.

Dec. 31.

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The following Table contains the Rates of Exchanges, of Stocks, and Prices of C
noting the balance of foreign trade; the second, as the best means of indicating
wife to be met with. We propose to continue this Table at the end of each year

AVERAGES FOR

RATES OF EXCHANGE.

| Months. | Amster-
dam | Ham-
burgh | Paris | Madrid | Lisbon | Leghorn | Genoa | St Pe-
tersburg | Dublin |
|-----------|----------------|---------------|-------|--------|--------|---------|-------|--------------------|--------|
| | *1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 1791. | | | | | | | | | |
| January | 38.11 | 35.4 | 25.2 | 35.1 | 5.7 | 47.4 | 43.7 | 31.8 | 8.4 |
| February | 38.11 | 35.5 | 25. | 35.2 | 5.7 | 47.3 | 43.4 | 30.0 | 8.6 |
| March | 38.11 | 35.7 | 25.1 | 35.4 | 5.7.2 | 47.2 | 43.5 | 29.0 | 8.3 |
| April | 38.8 | 35.7 | 24.3 | 35.6 | 5.6.6 | 47.3 | 44.2 | 28.0 | 8.4 |
| May | 38.9 | 35.8 | 23.3 | 35.7 | 5.6.6 | 47.4 | 44.1 | 28.0 | 8.4 |
| June | 38.9 | 35.8 | 23.3 | 35.7 | 5.6.2 | 47.1 | 43.6 | 29.0 | 8.2 |
| July | 38.8 | 35.8 | 23.0 | 35.6 | 5.6.4 | 47.2 | 43.6 | 29.0 | 8.4 |
| August | 38.4 | 35.5 | 22.7 | 36.0 | 5.7.3 | 47.5 | 44.1 | 29.0 | 8.5 |
| September | 37.11 | 35.2 | 22.7 | 36.2 | 5.8.5 | 48.0 | 44.2 | 29.0 | 8.2 |
| October | 37.10 | 35.1 | 22.7 | 36.4 | 5.9.0 | 48.1 | 44.4 | 29.0 | 8.3 |
| November | 37.6 | 34.9 | 22.7 | 36.4 | 5.8.6 | 48.7 | 45.0 | 29.0 | 8.2 |
| December | 37.10 | 34.10 | 21.1 | 36.4 | 5.8.2 | 48.7 | 44.7 | 29.0 | 8.3 |

Intrinsic value, according to the standard of British coinage.

| | s. | d. |
|--|---------------|------|
| * 1. Shillings and Pence Flemish for L. 1 Sterling | Pound Flemish | 10 9 |
| 2. Shillings and Pence Flemish for L. 1 Sterling | Pound Flemish | 11 9 |
| 3. Pence Sterling per <i>Fcu</i> of three livres | <i>Ecu</i> | 2 4 |
| 4. Ditto per <i>Pezzo</i> of eight rials plate | <i>Pezzo</i> | 3 3 |
| 5. Shillings and Pence Sterling per <i>Milree</i> | <i>Milree</i> | 5 2 |
| 6. Pence Sterling per <i>Pezzo</i> of eight rials | <i>Pezzo</i> | 3 11 |
| 7. Ditto per <i>Pezzo</i> of 115 <i>Soldi fuori di Banco</i> | <i>Pezzo</i> | 4 0 |
| 8. Pence Sterling per <i>Ruble</i> | <i>Ruble</i> | 3 3 |
| 9. <i>Per cent.</i> Irish currency less than British | | |

N.B. The Rates of Exchange are taken from the public prints, except that
St Peterburgh, which was obtained from private information, no list of the Russian
Exchanges being published.

of Stocks, and Prices of Grain at Leith, for the current year;—the first, as the most certain means of de-
the best means of indicating our internal state; and the last, as an article of concern to Scotland, not other-
able at the end of each year.

AVERAGES FOR THE YEAR 1791.

| PRICES OF STOCKS. | | | | | PRICES OF GRAIN AT LEITH. | | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|--|--|
| Bank
Stock | 3 p.C.
Conf. | 4 p.C.
1777 | 5 p.C.
1784 | India
Stock | Good
Wheat, per
Leith boll* | Mealing
Oats, per
Leith boll† | Good Eng-
lish malting
Barley, per
Leith boll. | Flour, per
sack of 24
lb. avoird-
upoise. | Oatmeal in
retail, per
peck of 8 lb.
Amsterdam
weight. |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | | s. d. | s. d. | s. d. | s. d. | s. d. |
| 43.7 | 31.8 | 8.4 | 1887 | 807 | 102 | 119 | 171 | 25 | 6 |
| 43.4 | 30.0 | 8.6 | 187 | 81 | 102 | 118 | 169 | 25 | 6 |
| 43.5 | 29.0 | 8.3 | 186 | 80 | 101 | 118 | 166 | 25 | 6 |
| 44.2 | 28.07 | 8.4 | 188 | 78 | 99 | 117 | 163 | 25 | 0 |
| 44.1 | 28.0 | 8.4 | 185 | 81 | 100 | 119 | 166 | 24 | 0 |
| 43.6 | 29.0 | 8.2 | 180 | 82 | 101 | 120 | 167 | 23 | 0 |
| 43.6 | 29.0 | 8.4 | 187 | 81 | 102 | 119 | 169 | 23 | 0 |
| 44.1 | 29.0 | 8.5 | 187 | 86 | 102 | 120 | 181 | 23 | 0 |
| 44.2 | 29.0 | 8.2 | 202 | 89 | 104 | 117 | 190 | 23 | 0† |
| 44.4 | 29.0 | 8.3 | 192 | 88 | 101 | 117 | 192 | 23 | 0 |
| 45.0 | 29.0 | 8.2 | 196 | 87 | 101 | 118 | 186 | 23 | 0 |
| 44.7 | 29.0 | 8.3 | 198 | 89 | 102 | 118 | 185 | 23 | 0 |

| British coinage. | | s. | d. |
|------------------|----|----|----|
| Pound Flemish | 10 | 9 | |
| Pound Flemish | 11 | 9 | |
| Ecu | 2 | 4 | |
| Pezzo | 3 | 3 | |
| Milree | 5 | 3 | |
| Pezzo | 3 | 11 | |
| Pezzo | 4 | 0 | |
| Ruble | 3 | 3 | |

N.B. The Stock of the
ROYAL BANK of Edin-
burgh, with accumula-
tion since the year 1786,
(when their capital, now
L.600,000, was doubled),
was sold in November
and December at 243 per
cent.

the public prints, except that to
information, no list of the Russian

* One boll of Wheat is equal to 4.0873 Winchester bushels.
† One boll of Oats or Barley is equal to 5.9626.
N.B. In Leith a discount is always given on Oats sold for
making Meal of 4 bolls per 104; but no allowance for Bar-
ley.

‡ Those sold in the four last months were of crop 1790.
§ This is Scots Barley, as, from the operation of the new
corn law, there is no English Barley in this market at pre-
sent.

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ANECDOTE.

DR FRANKLIN, when a child, found the long graces used by his father before and after meals, very disagreeable. One day after the winter's provisions had been salted, "I think, father," says Benjamin, "if you said *grace* over the *whole* *cask*—once for all—it would be a vast *saving of time*."

To the Readers of the Bee.

ONE year has now elapsed since the commencement of this work, during which time, the Editor has experienced the kindness of an indulgent Public in a very high degree, for which, and for the valuable communications of his respectable correspondents, his most grateful acknowledgements, are justly due. The demand for this Miscellany has far exceeded his most sanguine expectations, and called for suitable exertions on his part; but he has met with difficulties in the OPERATIVE department, that he himself did not expect, and such as he could not have believed possible, had they not actually occurred. Such indeed have been the difficulties of this kind, as nothing but the most determined resolution on his part, to make every possible exertion to fulfil the engagements he had come under to the public, could have overcome. When a man employs workmen in the way of their business, and allows the full price that works of that nature regularly cost, or what the operators demand, he might expect reasonably to get it performed in a proper manner; but so unfortunately has he been circumstanced in this respect, that he has been obliged to employ no less than *four* printers, and has not been able to get almost a single sheet of it so printed, as to admit the possibility of having it correct; no time being allowed for revising proofs, nor, on some occasions, even for allowing any person but the printer to see them, before they were put to press. In this way of going on, as no assistance could be given by proper correctors, if the printer himself, either would not or could not perform this task, correctness in printing was impossible; and as some of the printers were unacquainted with any other language than English, it has so happened, that the errors in printing other languages have been such as to be a disgrace to a literary journal; no time was allowed for folding or stitching properly; no time for drying; no time for packing up, and forwarding the numbers. This has been the cause of much unnecessary expense, much trouble, and many mistakes.

The mind of the Editor too, being thus kept in a perpetual state of anxiety, it has not been in his power to attend to the literary department, as he ought and as he wished to have done.

In these circumstances the Editor sensibly feels the weight of his obligations to the Public, for their singularly indulgent reception of such an

imperfect work. For a little time past, (unless towards the very close of the present volume) things have been conducted in a somewhat better train; and he has had the satisfaction to find, that his correspondents have unanimously concurred in saying the work has begun to improve. It has yet many degrees of improvement to pass through, before it comes near to what he expected, and hopes it will yet attain. He has been driven, from necessity, to establish a printing-house *himself* for this work; and things are now, he hopes, in such a train, as to enable him to speak with some degree of certainty, about the possibility of having it printed correctly, at least, in future; so that his ingenious correspondents need not now be under the apprehension that their compositions will be mangled, as they too often have been. The letter to be employed is all new; the paper that is now to be used, is of the best quality this place can afford, wirewove, and made on purpose for the work; and though at the very outset the next volume, he cannot flatter himself that every article will be as perfect as he wishes it; yet, in a few weeks, he thinks that, as to the *OPERATIVE* part, it will give satisfaction to his readers; and when more attention can be bestowed upon the *LITERARY* department, that may perhaps also improve.

As many persons who are advancing in years, take in this work, the Editor has been particularly attentive to them. In compliance with many requests from such persons, he has avoided to diminish the size of the type so much as he once intended; and in the next volume, he has so arranged this article, as, he hopes will meet with their approbation. It was always his intention rather to give some extra pages above the quantity stipulated, than to diminish the type; and though he has already done this, at times, yet the impossibility of getting the printing of the work forwarded, has hitherto prevented him from doing it so often as he wished. He trusts it will be soon, though perhaps not for a few weeks, in his power to indulge his inclination in this respect. On the whole, no endeavours on his part shall be wanting for regaining that character, which, from the cross accidents above stated, he thinks he has in some measure apparently lost. Nor does he despair.

He thought this apology, for once, necessary to account for circumstances that have given him much pain, and to ease his mind of a load, that he has found very burdensome.

••• The Editor wishes good health, and many happy returns of the season, to all his readers.



SHORT CHRONICLE

OF EVENTS.

[Nov. 23. 1791.]

FOREIGN.

PRINCE Potemkin, the successful and favourite General of the Emperess of Russia, died at Jassy on the 16th of October, of a putrid fever. He has left an immense fortune, said to be 60,000,000 crowns, besides great estates.

On the 16th of October last, Baron Sutherland, banker to her Imperial Majesty the Emperess of Russia, died at St Petersburg.

Since the revolution in Poland, Protestants have been elected to public offices in various parts of that kingdom.

Sorcery, though extinct in most parts of the world, still exists at Rome, where the Rev. Father Alizze was lately seized for this crime, by order of the holy and enlightened office of inquisition.

An earthquake has lately happened in Italy at Fuligno, which overturned a great number of country houses and cottages, and many people have been crushed under their ruins.

The Ottoman Ambassador

has delivered a letter of thanks from the Grand Signior to the King of Prussia, for his interference with the Court of Russia. The Ambassador appears in great splendor at the public places in Berlin.

On the 16th of October, the British, Prussian, and Dutch Ministers, employed as mediators at the Congress of Czistove, were introduced to the Emperor at Vienna, and received a present of three thousand ducats each, in testimony of his Imperial Majesty's approbation of their labours.

Each of the European Ministers who assisted at the late Congress of Czistove, had 7500 piastres per month allowed for his table, with a present besides of 30,000 piastres. The Baron de Lucchesini had a further reward from the Grand Signior of 35,000 piastres. Tefeta, and two other interpreters, were allowed 20 piastres a day, and received a present each of 2500.

Letters from Vienna, dated October 21st, contain very alarming accounts from Hun-

gary, where the peasants are said to be on the point of rising against the nobility and clergy, by whom many of them have been beaten, on pretext of an order for that purpose from the Emperor. Eighty families, threatened with the same discipline, were arrived at Vienna, to lay their complaints at the foot of the throne.

The States of Brabant have shaken off their obedience to the Supreme Council of that Duchy; and their contempt of superior jurisdiction has induced the Emperor, as Duke of Brabant, to order their seditious and refractory decrees to be ignominiously torn from the records, by the common crier. The whole country is in a state of ferment, though the presence of a brave and well disciplined army should seem to be sufficient to deter the inhabitants from the very idea of disloyalty.

A general amnesty was published at Liege on Sunday the 23d ult. which for the present terminates the troubles which prevailed in that principality. A previous measure, however, was adopted, which may tend to keep alive a spirit of discontent in the minds of many. Two decrees of the Imperial Commission had been published five days before; by one of which 37 persons, including the Prince de Rohan, are charged with having criminally distinguished themselves as principal chiefs in the late rebellion. The other decree confiscates the property of the same per-

sons, and prohibits every one from paying them any debts, interest, or reverence whatever, under pain of being obliged again to pay the amount to the receivers appointed by the Imperial Commission to receive all debts and sums of money due to the proscribed persons.

A quarrel lately took place at Brussels between the Hungarians who had arrived from Leige, and the soldiers of the regiment of Bender, the occasion of which was as follows: A guard had been placed at the entrance of a street principally inhabited by prostitutes, to prevent all soldiers from going there. When the Hungarians presented themselves, they mistook the refusal of access for a personal insult; and in consequence abused and attempted to force the guard; this conduct provoked a discharge of musquetry. The Hungarians were re-enforced by their comrades; and in the engagement, which lasted an hour, twenty soldiers and one officer were killed.

The Courts of Petersburg and Stockholm have concluded a treaty of alliance, which has for its object the restoration of the French Princes to their former dignities.

This treaty was signed on the 19th ult. at Stockholm. The Court of Copenhagen was invited to join them, but declined the offer. The Empress, it is said, insists upon the Emperor adhering to his engagements upon the same score. The Emperor seems undetermined how

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to act—he has, in some degree, committed himself both with the emigrants and the French nation; a circumstance that may possibly drive him to extremities at last.

The Legislative Assembly of France have been occupied for some time on the subject of the frequent emigrations, and the motions of the French Princes. At length, on the 7th inst. after long discussion, the following important decree was enacted by the Legislature :

Art. I. The French assembled beyond the frontiers of the kingdom, are from this moment declared suspected of a conspiracy against their country.

II. If, on the first of January 1793, they be found in the same situation, they shall be declared guilty of a conspiracy, prosecuted as such, and punished with death. All the French Princes, and all the public functionaries, who shall not re-enter the kingdom on or before the 1st of January 1793, shall be considered as engaged in a conspiracy against the constitution and the public safety.

III. The High National Court shall be convoked, and proceed to judgment on those who disobey this decree.

IV. The revenues of those convicted of contumacy shall be forfeited to the nation during their lives, without prejudice however to the rights of their wives, children, and creditors.

V. The revenues of the absent French Princes shall be confiscated from the dates of

the promulgation of this decree. No payment of any pension, revenue, rent, &c. shall be made to them, either directly or indirectly, nor to their attornies or assignes, under pain of responsibility and two years imprisonment.

VI. The above-mentioned sequestrations shall be carried into execution by the Procureur Syndics, &c. of the departments, and the sums received shall be paid in to the treasurer of the said departments.

VII. All public functionaries who absented themselves from the kingdom without a lawful excuse before the amnesty of the 15th of September, and who do not return before the 1st of November, shall be deprived of their offices and appointments.

VIII. All public functionaries who have left the kingdom without assigning a lawful reason since the above amnesty, shall be deprived of their places and appointments, and shall be deprived of their privileges as active citizens.

IX. No public functionary shall in future go out of the kingdom without leave from the minister of his department.

X. Every officer who shall abandon his regiment before giving in his resignation, shall be prosecuted as a deserter, and be subject to the same penalties as a common soldier.

XI. The King shall be desired to institute Courts Martial immediately, and more especially at Metz, Strasburg, and Lille, to try all military

offences committed since the amnesty. The Accuseurs Publics shall prosecute all those as guilty of theft, who have carried away money belonging to their respective regiments.

XII. All Frenchmen out of the kingdom, who shall enlist men to attack the frontiers, shall be punished with death.

XIII. The same punishment shall be inflicted on all those who enlist men for the same purpose within the kingdom.

XIV. No arms, ammunition, or military stores, shall be suffered to leave the kingdom.

XV. The Legislative Committee is desired to present an account of such measures as the King shall be requested to take, in regard to such neighbouring powers as allow the emigrants to assemble in the territories near to the frontiers of the French empire.

On Saturday the 5th current, the National Assembly decreed thanks to the King of Great Britain, to the English Nation, and to Lord Effingham, Governor of *Jamaica*, for his generous conduct in relieving the Planters of *St Domingo* from the horrors of famine, and furnishing them with arms and military stores against their rebel negroes.—The motion was, in some sort, opposed by a M. Conthon, who told the Assembly to reflect before they decreed.

Intelligence is received from *St Domingo*, that the revolt of the negroes is repressed—a great number of the ringleaders are made prisoners, and many more massacred. The free people of

colour took an active part in favour of the white colonists; and by their exertions, aided by a few troops of the line from *Cape Francois*, extinguished the revolt. The tranquillity of the eastern and southern parts of *St Domingo* was not disturbed.

On the 30th inst. the Duke of Orleans called a meeting of his creditors at Paris; he proved to them, that without mentioning the eight millions of his Duchess's portion, he possessed forty millions of livres more than he owed.

Twenty-seven Newspapers are now published daily in Paris, besides the journal of debates and decrees, printed by order of the National Assembly.

There are no less than forty theatres opened nightly in Paris, and which are constantly filled. It is the fashion to go from the one to the other, and thus take the course of three or four in an evening.

On the 4th instant, the mail from *Dunkirk*, containing English letters, was robbed between that place and *Calais*, of bills, bank-notes, and assignats, to a considerable amount, and the post boy most inhumanly murdered.

The Portuguese farmers have received an enormous indulgence from the Queen. They are permitted to sell their corn to whom they please within the kingdom.

The inquisition in Portugal has just been further weakened, by an union with the tribunal of censure. Thus gradually

does the state proceed towards its entire abolition.

The emigration of foreigners from Spain, especially the French, who refuse taking the new prescribed oath, is very great. Several ships full of them have left Cadiz, Madrid, and its environs, has already lost above 1200 foreigners, formerly domiciliated, who are returned to their respective countries. The emigration from the interior parts of the kingdom is much more considerable than the above.

Algiers, Sept. 21. Peace is restored between our regency and Spain. M. de la Rea, his Catholic Majesty's Plenipotentiary, has agreed with the Dey to evacuate Oran, after having withdrawn from thence all the artillery and ammunition, and having destroyed the batteries and new works. The Dey has, at the same time, consented to the establishment of a company of Spanish merchants at Oran and Malalquiver; who are to have the privilege, in preference to all other nations, of purchasing grain, wood, wool, and other productions of Barbary, provided they pay the price offered by other nations. They have also permission to buy of the Moors 230 lasts of corn yearly. For these concessions the company is to pay the Dey 2000 sequins of Algiers every two months.

On the 4th ult. between two and three in the afternoon, a fire was discovered in the royal prison at Madrid, which reduced the whole building to ashes. The prisoners, to the number of 210, had the good fortune

to escape the flames, and have been removed to the prison of the city.

The Hereditary Prince of Orange, and his Princess, made their public entry into the Hague with great pomp on the 2d of November.

Verlem, the bookseller at Amsterdam, who has been confined in prison several weeks with his wife and children, for having sold a publication, in which the Stadtholder was not treated with proper respect, is condemned to be whipped and branded, and to be imprisoned for the space of 25 years.

The Royal Academy of Inscriptions and Belles Letters at Stockholm have among other premiums advertised a gold medal, value between five and six pounds English, for an inscription in Latin or Swedish to be put upon the monument of Linnæus.

A physician and apothecary of the name of d'Akes, at Orebo, in Sweden, has invented a powder, which mixed with water, he says, will instantly extinguish the most violent fire. Several experiments have been made with success, and they are to be repeated at Drottningholm, in presence of his Majesty, where several houses are constructed for the purpose.

On the 22d of August, an accident of a melancholy nature happened at Gibraltar, and was very near proving fatal to no less than five officers of the 68th regiment: Captains O'Meara and Stewart, Lieutenants Monypenny and Steuart, and Ensign Snell, went across the bay to dine in Spain; on

their return in the evening, Mr Snell got on the mast of the boat, by which means it overlet. They kept hold of the sides of the vessel until some boats arrived from the shore: A Genoa boatman unluckily seized hold of the part poor Monypenny held, which occasioned him to quit his hold: he instantly went down, and has never since been heard of, universally lamented by the garrison in general, and the 68th in particular; the others were brought safe on shore.

A gang, or rather several gangs of swindlers, in the United States of America, have lately committed frauds on the public to an immense amount; no less than 40,000*l.* in Charles-Town. The mode in which those frauds have been successfully practised, is as follows: they purchase small indents, and with a chemical preparation expunge the true sum, and substitute a greater in its room, with so much exactness as to render the detection impossible. Many persons, particularly merchants and farmers, have suffered extremely by these means; and great rewards are offered for the conviction of the offenders.

Mr Spillard, the celebrated English traveller, arrived at Charles-Town, on the 21st of July, from the Northward.—Shortly after the conclusion of the war, he set out from London, on a geographical and botanical mission, under the auspices of a respectable personage in England; and having traversed on foot a great part

of Europe, Asia, Africa, and the Balearick Islands, is now on the hazardous enterprize of exploring the continent of America. We understand he left Charles-Town early in the month of August, for the Creek nation; whence he will proceed to New Orleans, where he is to meet Lord Fitzgerald, who is on his way from Quebec. When they meet, they will proceed together up the Mississippi, and explore the Missouri river.

DOMESTIC.

On the 17th inst. William Williams, the Printer of the London Newspaper called the Morning Post, received judgment in the Court of King's Bench, for publishing in that paper a *libel*, stating that a criminal intercourse had taken place betwixt the Earl of Westmoreland, the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and the Lady of Lord Fitzgibbon, Lord Chancellor of that kingdom, and insinuating, that the latter had abjectly submitted to the disgrace.—The sentence was, to be imprisoned in Newgate for one year, and to find security in 100*l.* for his good behaviour for three years.

On the 19th of October, the Badger excise revenue cutter, Captain Stewart, fell in with a large smuggling lugger off the Isle of Man; when a smart engagement took place, in which the cutter was worsted, and endeavoured to get off; but the lugger immediately boarded the Badger, cut away the main-mast, plundered her of all the wearing apparel, watches,

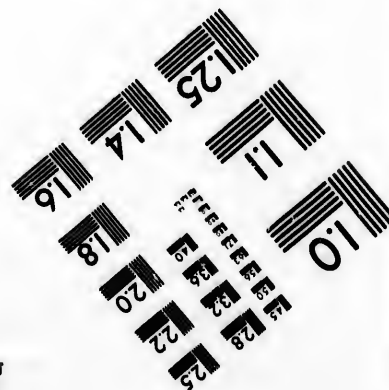
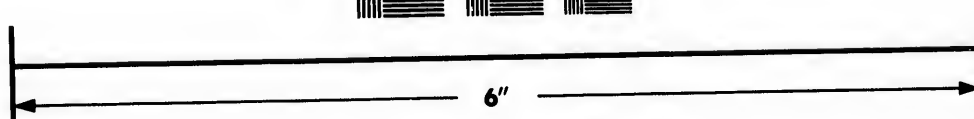
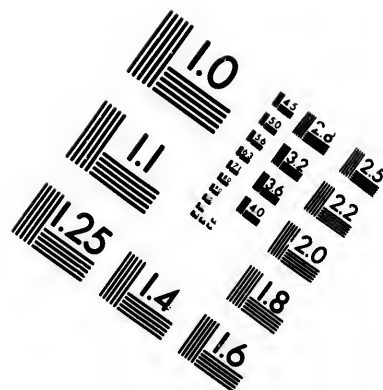
Asia, Africa, and
Islands, is now on
an enterprise of ex-
ploring the conti-
nent of America.
Understand he left
early in the
month of August, for the Creek
country, where he will proceed
to visit, where he is to
visit Fitzgerald, who is
from Quebec.
If they will pro-
ceed up the Missis-
sippi to the Missouri

DOMESTIC.

With inf. William
the Printer of the
paper called the
Star, received judg-
ment, Court of King's
 Bench, publishing in that
paper, stating that a cri-
minal had taken
the Earl of West-
moreland, Lord Lieute-
nant, and the Lady of
the Earl, Lord Chan-
celor, and in-
at the latter had
admitted to the dis-
sentence was, to be
Newgate for one
year, find security in
good behaviour

On the 10th of October, the
revenue cutter,
Hart, fell in with a
small lugger off the
coast, when a smart en-
gagement took place, in which
the cutter was worsted, and en-
gaged off; but the
cutter boarded the
lugger, and main-
tained her of all the
cannon, watch,





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money, &c. and carried off her sails.—The Badger with difficulty got into the Isle of Man two days after.—Captain Stewart was wounded in the shoulder, and the cook shot through both legs.—The lugger had 16 guns, and 50 men. The Commissioners of Excise in London have offered a reward of 500l. for the discovery of this vessel.

On the night of the 26th ult. a new sloop, laden with wheat from Whithorn to Liverpool, in attempting to get into Douglas harbour, Isle of Man, ran upon the ruins of the pier, where she was totally wrecked, and all on board perished, except one man.—The packet, very soon afterwards, had nearly shared the same fate, from the bow-sprit of the sloop being entangled in the ropes which support the temporary light: Luckily, the force of the vessel, pressing against the ropes, pulled down the lanthorn, and she got into port without damage.

On the 29th ult. a *monk-fish* was caught off St Bee's Head, and brought to Whitehaven. It measures four feet in length, which is a very extraordinary size, and is the only one of the kind that has been taken near that coast for many years past. This fish, which is a species of *squalus*, is cetaceous, and its mouth is furnished with 54 teeth, divided into three rows: The upper fins very much resemble wings, from which this kind is sometimes called the *angel-fish*.

On the 2d inst. about one o'clock in the morning, a most dreadful accident happened at Mrs Clitherow's, fireworker in Bishopgate-street, London. A large quantity of gun-powder, (about 300 weight) which had been provided for the purpose of making preparations to celebrate the Anniversary of the 5th November, by some accident caught fire. The house was blown up by the explosion, as were the houses on each side of it; two houses on the other side of the alley also caught fire, and were entirely burnt down. About eleven persons are supposed to have lost their lives; only four of their bodies have been found; but some limbs of others, torn in a most shocking manner, have been picked up, some of them at a considerable distance. All the houses in the neighbourhood, and for some distance round, received considerable damage; many doors were torn from their hinges, and every window for a large space round entirely destroyed. Mrs Clitherow and her three daughters, are among the number of those who were killed.

On Tuesday morning, the 15th inst. about two o'clock, the large and valuable cotton mill belonging to Messrs Parker and Co. of Clitheroe, in Lancashire, unfortunately caught fire, and in less than three hours was entirely consumed, with about 60 cwt. of cotton wool, 8 packs of twist, all the machinery, and books of accounts. The loss is estimated at upwards of

12,000l. but we are happy to say 5000l. were insured.

On the 8th ult. a newly finished glass-house at Dumbarton, supposed the largest in Britain, the cone being 120 feet in height, suddenly fell down. At this time there were twelve men in the inside, employed in removing the scaffolding, all of whom were buried in the ruins. The greatest exertions were made to remove the rubbish, and seven were got out in life, two of whom are since dead; so that seven of the twelve lost their lives.

The Marquis of Downshire has lately offered a premium to the growers of flax in the neighbourhood of Hillsborough, which must excite an emulation that may in the event be productive of the greatest consequence to the staple manufacture. For the best sample of fine linen rool. Second ditto 40l. For the cleanest and best raised flax, the sample to be taken, on oath, out of the growth of the field without selection, 50l. For the second ditto, 30l.

A present of no less than eight hundred pounds was made to the Magdalen Asylum at Dublin, by a lady who called in her carriage lately, and left that sum in National Bank notes. The Lady declined to give her address—and only mentioned, that she thought the institution highly deserving of support.

An old woman who had sore eyes, purchased an amulet or

charm, written upon a bit of parchment, which she wore about her neck, and was cured. A female neighbour, labouring under the same disorder, came to beg the charm of her—she would by no means part with it, but permitted her to get it copied. A poor school-boy was hired to do it for a few pence: He looked it over very attentively, and found it to consist of characters which he could not make out; but not being willing to lose his pay, he wrote thus:—"The devil pick out this old woman's eyes, and stuff up the holes."—The patient wore it about her neck, and was cured also.

A Mr Jennens, of Suffolk, is reported to be the richest man in this kingdom: He is said to be worth *three millions sterling*. King William was his god-father: His father was Aid-de-Camp to the Great Duke of Marlborough, and his grandfather was an eminent manufacturer at Birmingham. He is without children.

On Saturday se'ennight died at Pontefract, Fairfax Fearnley, Esq; barrister at law: It is somewhat singular that this gentleman had been at every assize in York for the last 30 years, and during that period never once missed the West-riding sessions. In travelling betwixt Yorkshire and Westminster-hall he had gone upwards of 48,000 miles which is equal, in distance, to twice round the globe, and never met with the smallest accident.

SHORT CHRONICLE

OF EVENTS.

[Dec. 14. 1791.]

FOREIGN.

WAR IN INDIA.

THE Leopard man of war, Captain Blanket, is arrived at Spithead, having left Madras on the 16th of July, and brings the following intelligence:

The army marched from Bangalore for Seringapatam on the 3d of May, under several difficulties, so many bullocks having perished by want of forage and other causes, during the siege of the former place, that Col. Oldham's reinforcement of 10,000 bullocks could not make up the number of cattle necessary for the draught of the artillery and baggage, and the carriage of ammunition, &c. The army, however, both officers and privates, were so zealous in the service, that the former, sacrificing every idea of comfort, and confining themselves to absolute necessities, were satisfied to double in their tents, and the men readily assisted in carrying a large portion of the shot required for the battering train.

b

Lord Cornwallis with his army came within sight of Seringapatam on the 13th of May, and found that Tippoo had posted himself on strong ground to cover his capital. His camp ran nearly north and south, with his right wing flanked by the river Cavery, and at the distance of about three miles Lord Cornwallis faced him, with his army extending in the same direction, and consequently with his left wing to the river. It was resolved that the enemy should be attacked on the 15th, and the mode determined upon was to leave our camp standing defended, together with the Nizam's horse, by a sufficiently strong body, and with the main of our army to take a sweep to the north-west, and thus unexpectedly fall upon Tippoo's rear. Unfortunately the intervention of some unforeseen delays prevented the execution of this plan so long that the enemy had time to prepare for our reception; and when we arrived, instead of finding a confused rear, a steady front was disco-

vered advancing to meet our forces.

Under these circumstances the action commenced, and continued for several hours—the slaughter among Tippoo's was very great, and in the end he was obliged to retreat across the river into the island of Seringapatam; previous to which, he had, however, contrived, under cover of his batteries, to ford over his heavy cannon, camp equipage, &c. so that our troops were only able to carry four of his guns.

His Lordship now tried to form a junction with the army under General Abercrombie; but finding that he was also in want of cattle, and for some other reasons, he returned again in three days to his post at Seringapatam, resolving to make a bold attempt to reduce the place, and terminate the war; but the early and sudden bursting out of the monsoon presented difficulties not to be overcome by human powers; and his Lordship found it necessary to draw off his army, and retreat towards Bangalore, to shelter during the rainy season, being obliged, from want of cattle, to leave his battering train, and part of his baggage behind.

At their first halting-place, about twelve miles from Seringapatam, the Mahrattas, who, it would appear, had stood aloof during the engagement, joined his Lordship with a supply of provisions for the army; after which they proceeded on their march without the smallest interruption from

the enemy, and reached Bangalore some time in the month of July.

General Abercrombie, about the same time, and from the same cause, the inclemency of the weather, found it also advisable to leave his post at Peripatam, thirty miles from Seringapatam, and retreat below the Ghauts to go into cantonments, which he effected without any resistance from the enemy, and arrived safely at Tellichery, but without being able to carry off his artillery and camp equipage. The bravery, zeal, and activity of the troops, in every part of this service, were highly conspicuous; and had a week or two intervened before the setting in of the monsoon, they certainly would have humbled the proud tyrant: but unfortunately for this country, that is not now to be done without the expense of another campaign.

The number of killed and wounded in the engagement with Tippoo, is stated at about 500, among whom were 23 officers and 109 Europeans.

Tippoo, in consequence of his defeat, retired precipitately within the walls of his capital; it is also to be observed, that in that defeat he was driven by the British forces from a high ground, of which the conquerors immediately availed themselves.

Some of the prisoners taken at Seringapatam say, it was Tippoo's resolution, in case of a total defeat, to blow up himself, his mother, his wives and children.

The following is an extract of a letter from the President and Council at Fort St George, to the Court of Directors, dated June 21. 1791.

"We are much concerned to observe, that the wants of the army have forced his Lordship to relinquish, in the midst of victory, the object of his enterprise; but, foreseeing that much might depend on immediate exertion, we lost not a moment in issuing our orders for collecting all the bullocks that could be procured in the country under our management, and for transporting to Amboor, for the use of the army, ample supplies of grain and every other provision.

"We advised Lord Cornwallis of the steps we had taken for the relief of the army; and expressed our hope, that, by the exertions we are making, added to those of Captain Alexander Reid, whom we had before sent with a detachment into the Mysoor country to procure supplies, his Lordship would find his distresses considerably relieved on his arrival at Bangalore.

"On the 10th inst. we received a letter from his Lordship, dated the 24th ultimo, stating, that the rapid destruction which the late heavy rains and the want of forage had occasioned among his cattle, in addition to the very unexpected obstructions to a junction with General Abercrombie, owing to the badness and almost impracticability of the fords of the Caverry, had obliged him, not only to

give up all thoughts of attacking Seringapatam before the setting-in of the monsoon, but also to destroy the heavy iron guns, which, for the last several marches, had been drawn almost by the soldiers: That the famine which had prevailed amongst his followers had likewise increased his difficulties, by creating an alarming deficiency in the public stock of provisions; which could not be wondered at when it was understood that rice sold in the Buzar for a pagoda a seer (about 16 lbs.); and that, under this consideration, it was not to be expected that mairies and bullock drivers would be able to withstand the temptation of plundering the bags committed to their charge on every march.

"We informed Lord Cornwallis, in reply, that from the exertions that had been made by Government, there was the greatest probability that we should have at Amboor, in the course of six weeks, or two months at farthest, six thousand draught, and twenty thousand carriage bullocks (the number required by his Lordship) and that there were at present in the neighbourhood of that place 1787 draught, and 3477 carriage bullocks.

"A few days ago we received two letters from his Lordship, dated the 31st ult. and 5th inst. By the former we were advised that he had marched on the 26th towards Bangalore, but that on coming to the ground where he proposed to encamp,

reached Bangalore in the month

Abercrombie, about 100 miles from the inclemency of the weather, and from the want of provisions, he found it also advisable to abandon his post at Perim, and retreat below the mountains, where he effected with-
out any loss, and arrived safely at Perim, without being molested by the enemy's artillery. The brave activity of the very part of this army, highly conspicuous a week or two before the setting in of the monsoon, they certainly umbled the proud unfortunately for that is not now without the ex-
other campaign.

of killed and the engagement is stated at about 1000 Europeans, 2300 Europeans. In consequence of the retired precipitately of his capital; he observed, that he was driven from a place, of which the com-
mediately availed

the prisoners taken at Bangalore, it was resolution, in case of a defeat, to blow up him-
self, his wives and

he was greatly surprised to hear that the two Mahratta armies, commanded by Hurry Punt and Purfuram Bow, both of which he had every reason to believe to be at the distance of 150 miles, were then actually within a day's march, and that Purfuram Bow's son, with the advanced guard, was in sight: That this unexpected event had naturally occasioned a total change of his plan, especially as he found that the Chiefs, although they had heard that the attack of Seringapatam had been necessarily postponed till the conclusion of the rains, entertained no idea of retreating towards their own frontier, but were disposed to co-operate heartily with his Lordship in distressing Tippoo, and cutting off his resources: That they had further assured him, at the first meeting, that they had it in their power to relieve the greatest difficulties under which he laboured, viz. the want of grain and of bullocks; but that their supplies of grain through the means of Benjarrjes, were so precarious, and the authority of the Chiefs over those people, even if they kept their word in endeavouring to exert it, so inefficacious, that he was very apprehensive he should be held, for a considerable time at least, in a state of wretched dependance on the Mahratta Buzar, where he would not only be obliged to pay an immense price for a scanty subsistence, but be exposed at all times even to the risk of a total failure.

"His Lordship thought it, however, so great an object to keep 30,000 Mahratta horse in the neighbourhood of Tippoo's capital, that it was to be attempted almost at all hazards; and that he had already, in his conversation with the Chiefs, paved the way for leading them towards the Sera country and the vicinity of Bangalore, as soon as the safety of the supplies which were following Purfuram Bow, should admit of his moving so much to the left.

His Lordship added, that several letters had been written to him by the Mahratta Chiefs during their march, to give him notice of their approach, but that no letter from either of them had reached him till the day of their arrival, which he considered as singularly unfortunate, as he would have adopted a very different plan of operations, if he had known eight or ten days before, that he could have depended upon the junction of so powerful a force.

"His Lordship pressed us not to lose sight of the great object of providing bullocks and grain, and of sending supplies of arack and camp-equipage to Amboor; that these, and various other measures, he conceived to be absolutely necessary, upon the supposition that the war might continue longer than we expected; for, that although Tippoo had repeatedly expressed an earnest desire for peace, his Lordship was by no means convinced that the enemy were prepared to make the sacrifices that the conse-

rdship thought it, great an object to Mahratta horse-bourhood of Tip- that it was to be most at all hazards; had already, in ion with the Chiefs, y for leading them Sera country and of Bangalore, as safety of the sup- vere following Pur- should admit of o much to the left. ship added, that fe- had been written e Mahratta Chiefs march, to give him eir approach, but ter from either of eached him till the arrival, which he as singularly un- as he would have very different plan as, if he had known days before, that ave depended upon a of so powerful a

rdship pressed us not of the great object bullocks and grain; ing supplies of ar- camp-equipage to hat these, and va- measures, he con- be absolutely neces- the supposition that ght continue longer expected; for, that ippoo had repeated- d an earnest desire his Lordship was by convinced that the e prepared to make ces that the confe-

derates might think they had a right to expect.

"Lord Cornwallis proceeded to inform us, that his wants in money would be pressing and extensive; that the supply of the army during the rains, and its equipment for the field, exclusive of the corps under General Abercrombie, could not be estimated at less than between thirty and forty lacks of rupees; and he desired us therefore to take our measures accordingly. He added, that he would have us consider whether it would not be advisable to take some assistance from the treasure sent out in the Company's ships, which was destined for China; and that whatever we might resolve upon would have his sanction. In the mean time, he desired that we would send seven or eight lacks of rupees to Vellore, to supply the wants of the army, as soon as the communication was secured.

"It was a peculiar satisfaction to us at this time to reflect, that we had actually in our treasury, the full amount of what his Lordship represented to be necessary for him during the rains, and for the subsequent equipment of his army, notwithstanding the ample advances made for your investment.

"We have the pleasure to inform you, that the fort of Co- poole surrendered to the Ni- zam's army on the 17th of April."

The following is an extract of another letter from the Pre-

sident and Council at Fort St George, to the Court of Directors, dated July 14. 1791.

"On the 30th of last month, we received a letter from Lord Cornwallis, dated the 14th, in which he informed us, that the Caverry river had risen very considerably, but was still fordable; That Tippoo had not only brought his whole force across the river, but a considerable quantity of artillery and stores, from which his Lordship supposed that it was the intention of the enemy to give every disturbance in his power, to interrupt our supplies, and in particular to prevent, as much as possible the equipment of our part of the army, from which he (Tippoo) well knew he had the most serious misfortunes to fear.

"That the necessity of his Lordship's regulating his movements in concert with the Mahrattas, and protecting their supplies, would keep him so much to the westward, that it would be certainly possible, and he thought by no means improbable, that Tippoo, who could have no apprehension for Seringapatam for the next four months, might make a rapid march to Oussore, and from thence pass into the Ba- rampaul and Carnatic.

"His Lordship added, that we might be assured he would give us the earliest intelligence of such an event; but he desired us, in the mean time, to be upon our guard, and amongst other precautions to reinforce the garrison of Arnee,

and take every means in our power to transport the stores and provisions, that were not wanted for the use of that garrison, from thence to Vellore, and, if possible, to Amboor.

"We received a letter from Lord Cornwallis of the 25th ult. stating that the Mahrattas, having now no further apprehensions about their communications, or safety of their distant detachments, acquiesced in his Lordship's beginning to move to the eastward on that morning; and that unless, after minutely reconnoitring the strong hill fort of Severndroog, about twenty-five miles to the westward of Bangalore, he should be encouraged to attempt the reduction of that important post, he should probably, in four or five days, reach the neighbourhood of Bangalore.

"His Lordship added, that an outline of his future plan of operations had been explained and concerted with the Mahratta Chiefs: That they had agreed not to separate from him until the war was brought to an honourable conclusion; and that he should take an early opportunity of communicating to us the particulars of what had passed between him and those Chiefs, at some of his late conferences with them.

"We have received letters from his Lordship, dated the 21st and 24th ultimo. The first, stating that he had been obliged, for reasons he could not then explain to us, to promise a considerable loan to the Mahrattas; and desiring there-

fore, that we would immediately take the amount of twelve lacks of rupees out of the China ships, notwithstanding any orders to the contrary that we might have received, and coin it into rupees with as much dispatch as possible.

"In reply to his Lordship's letter, we observed that the sum of twelve lacks of rupees would be held in readiness to answer any call which he might have for it.

"We have very sincere pleasure in reporting to your Honour, that Captain Alexander Reid, whom we had sent into the Mysore country, with a detachment to collect supplies, arrived lately at Bangalore, with a very large convoy of bullocks, sheep, and grain, for the use of the army; a circumstance particularly fortunate at this juncture, when the troops were reduced to so much distress for all kinds of provisions.

"We understand that his Lordship has expressed, in general orders, his acknowledgment of the service rendered by Captain Reid. The whole supply collected by that zealous and active officer, amounted to 1952 unloaded bullocks, about 9000 load of grain, brought by the Benjarries, 44,567 sheep, and 100 horses.

"As the service performed by Captain Reid had been conducted throughout with great ability and judgment, we expressed to him our warmest approbation of his conduct; and we resolved, in order to enable him to defray the extraordinary expence which he

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lved, in order to
to defray the ex-
pence which he

had sustained on this occasion,
and as a further testimony of
our acknowledgment of his
services, to give him a gratuity
of one thousand pagodas.

"As the intercourse with the
army was opened by Lord
Cornwallis's movement to the
eastward, we thought it might
be essential to his Lordship's
plans to inform him of the ex-
act state of our treasury, which
stood on the 4th inst. at about
550,000l. Sterling.

"All the bills drawn from
camp had been regularly paid,
and our garrison and civil esta-
blishment had been also paid
up, so that we were fully pre-
pared to supply the pecuniary
wants of the army during the
rains, and to re-equip it for the
ensuing campaign."

The following extract of a
letter from the Camp, gives a
picturesque description of the
capital of Mysore:

"We however had an op-
portunity of viewing Sriranga-
patam with precision, which
was a grateful sight, though it
would be much more so, had
we a footing in the fort, which
is a formidable place, nearly as
large as Trichinopoly. The
buildings in it are very superb,
and have an appearance of
grandeur and richness which I
have not met with before in
this country. The island on
which it stands, is a beautiful
spot, abounding with very ele-
gant buildings, villas, squares,
groves, and gardens; which,
together, with a view of the
fort and Tippon's immense in-
campment, exhibit a scene
highly picturesque and impor-
tant.

"Crowds of people are con-
tinually throwing up works of
defence; infantry and cavalry
moving in all directions, and
boats plying up and down the
river, contribute to render this
landscape the most sublime and
beautiful I ever beheld.

"The Mausoleum of Hyder,
is amongst the grandest of the
objects to be admired here.—
It is situated on the south angle
of the island, in the Lane Baal,
near an elegant villa or rather
rural palace of Tippon, and
surrounded by a grove of the
most beautiful cypress trees.

"The whole island seems to
be a complete fortification,
and the fort to have received
every improvement that art
can give."

DOMESTIC.

The Duke and Duchesse of
York, having passed some days
at Calais, waiting for a favour-
able wind, sailed from thence on
Friday the 18th ult. about two
o'clock in the morning, and
after a turbulent and unpleasant
voyage of nine hours, arrived
off the beach at Dover soon af-
ter eleven. The Duchesse had
suffered so much by sea-sickness
that she fainted as her women
and his Royal Highness were
assisting her to ascend the deck.
Upon her recovery, her Royal
Highness was carried to the
York hotel, and put to bed.

On Saturday morning, soon
after nine o'clock, their Royal
Highnesses, accompanied by
Madame Von Vierack, the lady
that attended her Royal High-
ness from Berlin, set off from
Dover in a post-coach and six
horses, with three postillions,
for London.

A post coach followed with six horses, with Col. St Leger, Mr Bunbury, Capt. Wynyard, and Mr Stepney; and a coach and four, with her Royal Highness's female attendants.

In the latter part of their journey, their Royal Highnesses were followed by near 30 carriages, which joined in a procession, and formed a very handsome appearance. A few miles from town, they were met by a party of the Life Guards, who escorted them to York House.

In the evening, a little before six o'clock, their Royal Highnesses, and their suite arrived safe at York House, Whitehall.

The Prince of Wales handed the young Duchess from her carriage, and congratulated her on her arrival, in the German language, which the Prince speaks with great precision.

The Duke of Clarence arrived soon after, and carried the intelligence to Buckingham house, where the King was not yet returned from Windsor. The Duchess, on account of the fatigue in travelling, did not visit the rest of the Royal Family the same evening; but at nine o'clock the Duke of York was presented to their Majesties and the Princesses, at the Queen's house, by the Prince of Wales. At ten her Royal Highness retired to rest.

On Sunday the 20th the Duke and Duchess were in-

roduced to their Majesties at Buckingham House. The Duchess was conducted by the Prince of Wales, on the right hand and the Duke on her left, into the grand drawing-room, where were the King, Queen, and six Princesses, attended by the Officers of State.

The meeting was a most joyful one. The King received his new daughter, whom, on her attempt to kneel, he caught up, and, saluting her with the kiss of affection, presented her to the Queen, and afterwards to the six Princesses, after which the Duke went through the same ceremony.

Their Majesties, their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Wales, Duke and Duchess of York, Duke of Clarence, and all the six Princesses, dined together afterwards at Buckingham House.

In the evening the Duke and Duchess returned to York House.

Her Royal Highness's person is somewhat below the common height, and her figure elegantly formed. Her countenance has much interesting sweetness. Her complexion is exquisitely fair, her hair light, and her eye-lashes are long and nearly white, resembling those of our Royal Family, to whom, indeed, she is not unlike in features. Her eyes are blue, and of uncommon brilliancy.

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SHORT CHRONICLE

OF EVENTS.

[Dec. 31. 1795.]

FOREIGN.

Castro, Nov. 15.

MELANCHOLY accounts have been received here, of the earthquakes in Calabria Ultra, which have been frequent and violent for six weeks past. They do not seem to extend so far as in the year 1783, and their greatest force appears to have been at Morte Leone, Mileto, and Soriano, where most of the wooden barracks have been overthrown, and many people wounded, but few lives have been lost. These earthquakes are but slightly felt at Messina; and it has been remarked that since they began, Mount *Ætna* and *Stromboli* have been quiet, and smoked less than usual. A village called *Casa Nuova*, near *Fuligno*, on the *Loretto* road, was nearly destroyed by an earthquake the 11th of October, and the houses for six miles round were damaged more or less, the people being obliged to live in the fields. Mount *Vesuvius*, after having thrown out a thick smoke and

ashes for several days, opened a new mouth on the side next to the mountain of *Somma* on Thursday last, and from thence a copious lava is running into the valley between the two mountains.

The overflowing of the *Tiber*, in consequence of long and heavy rains, has done considerable damage in the lower parts of the city.

On Sunday the 27th ult. about half past ten in the evening, a very violent shock of an earthquake was felt at *Lisbon*; fortunately it did not continue long, although it was sufficiently severe to ring the bells in several houses: The candlesticks in the chapel of the Irish convent were thrown down; and the general consternation was so great, that many inhabitants quitted their houses and ran into the streets for safety; The nobility left the city early the next morning. Several vessels lying in the *Tagus* were affected by this shock, which is the severest that city has experienced since the great earthquake that happened in 1755.

*Letter from her Majesty the
Empress of all the Russias, to
the Marshal de Broglie.*

" Marshal de Broglie,

" I address myself to you, to make known to the French nobility, banished and persecuted, but still unshaken in their fidelity and attachment to their Sovereign, how sensibly I have felt the sentiments which they professed to me in their letter of 20th September. The most illustrious of your Kings gloried in calling themselves the first gentlemen of their kingdom. Henry IV. was particularly desirous of bearing this title. It was not an empty compliment that he paid to your ancestors; but he thus taught them, that without nobility there could be no Monarchy; and that their interest to defend and maintain it was inseparable from his. They understood the lesson, and lavished their blood and their efforts to re-establish the rights of their masters and their own. Do you, their worthy descendants, to whom the unhappy circumstances of your country open the same career, continue to tread in their steps, and let the spirit which animated them, and which you appear to inherit, be displayed in your actions.

" Elizabeth succoured Henry IV. who triumphed over the league at the head of your ancestors. The example of that Queen is worthy of being imitated by posterity; and I shall deserve to be compared to her by my perseverance in my sentiments for the descen-

dants of the same hero, to whom I have as yet only shewn my wishes and my good intentions. In espousing the common cause of Kings in that of your Monarch, I do no more than the duty of the rank which I hold on earth: I listen only to the pure dictates of a sincere and disinterested friendship for your Princes, the King's brothers, and the desire of affording a constant support to every faithful servant of your Sovereign.

" Such are the dispositions of which I have charged Count Romanzow to assure those Princes. As no cause was ever more grand, more just, more noble, more deserving to excite the zeal and the courage of all who have devoted themselves to defend it and to fight for it, I cannot but augur success the most fortunate and analogous to the wishes I have formed; and I pray God to have you, and all the French nobility who participate your sentiments, and adhere to your principles, in his most holy keeping.

(Signed) CATHARINE"
*Letter from the French Em-
perors to the French King.*

This long composition is dated *Coblentz, December 1.* and contains, among others, the following passage.

" It is not to you, Sire, that we undertake to justify our resistance (*to the invitation of return*)—We know too well the intentions of your Majesty. We shall never believe, that you have freely consented to renounce the sovereignty,

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which you hold from God al-
one; to render yourself the sub-
ordinate agent of the revolvers
who usurp your throne.

"Your Majesty, less unhap-
py than was the head of your
house, may reckon among your
defenders two august brothers,
the Princes of the name of
Conde, a name so dear to vic-
tory, the French nobility, and
a number of persons of the
third estate, who have all dedi-
cated their blood and the rest
of their fortune to the task of
replacing the crown upon your
head. It is in these circum-
stances, Sire, that we are in-
vited to abandon your rights,
and to submit ourselves to the
multitude who have deprived
you of your liberty.

"The fidelity, which we
have sworn, Sire, is to the
whole House of Bourbon, and
when it shall be possible that
you may wish to deprive us of it,
our obligations will not subsist
the less between us and your
descendants. The throne will
belong to them as it was trans-
mitted to you, and such as you
possessed it at your accession to
the crown. Our fidelity will
be due to them; we are, there-
fore, not permitted to consent
to any act, which may deprive
them of the rights of their
birth, and of the inheritance to
which they are called.

"In all nations, the pro-
prietors of the land, the posses-
sors of the richest personal pro-
perty, have always formed a
distinct class from the other in-
habitants. Without this pre-
caution, the latter, necessarily
the most numerous, would con-

tinually hold the others in a
precarious and uncertain state.

"Do not believe, Sire, that
we have abandoned our country;
we hope to return with all
those whom common danger
has compelled to quit their
houses; we shall return to
bring with us order and peace;
to replace your Majesty upon
your throne, and to enjoy,
with all your people, the bless-
ings which you shall freely
judge it suitable to grant
them."

All the letters received from
abroad are now filled with ac-
counts of the mighty prepara-
tions making by the Ex-Princes
for re-entering France. These
may, for the most part, be con-
sidered as stratagems to keep up
the spirits of the party during
the winter. The season, at
least, is certainly very unfavour-
able to such undertakings.

It is a fact, however, that
considerable sums have been re-
mitted to Coblenz, to the Ex-
Princes. But the Count d'Ar-
tois, considering the money as
intended for his own uses, and
that for some others of the
Royal Household, has dissipat-
ed the greatest part of it,
which has alienated the hearts
of many friends to the cause.

Letters from Switzerland an-
nounce, that the canton of Fri-
bourg has refused to acknow-
ledge the acceptance by the
King of the French of the new
constitution: That the canton
of Soleure authorities recruiting
within its territory for the
army of the Princes—and that
the canton of Berne permits
cannon to be cast for them at

d'Arau. The Prince-Bishop of Basse continues to maltreat those French patriots whose affairs call them within his district: and he permits an aristocratic assembly at Saugereu, only one league from Delemont, the seat of his bishoprick. Under the pretext of troubles, he engaged the Emperor to furnish troops, who now occupy the important defiles of Porentu, commanding the Franche Comte. This disposition, so highly favourable to the designs of the Princes, gives ground of surmise, that the Emperor still secretly wishes to give every possible succour to their cause.

The new code of the republic of Geneva, after having been printed, and submitted to the examination of the citizens during two months, was carried on the 14th of November for the sanction of the sovereign; that is to say, of the council general; and it was accepted by a plurality of 959 votes against 761.

A courier extraordinary from Rome is arrived at Paris, announcing the dangerous indisposition of the Pope.

The Pope, before his illness, was making some considerable additions to the Vatican Palace; in one angle of which is a superb room for the reception of the valuable antiquities which have been dug up within the last three years, among which is a beautiful chariot, which the ancients used in their races, and an immense vase of porphyry. His Holiness has likewise laid

the foundation of a magnificent palace in the Piazza de Pasquino for the residence of his nephew.

Several families at Rome have lately fallen victims to eating poisonous mushrooms, among whom is the Marquis Guideniani, generally lamented.

The following establishment makes part of the new police at Vienna: A physician, surgeon, and midwife, are paid by each district to give assistance to any person who may want them without fee.

The Queen of Portugal lately held an extraordinary council, to determine whether the cultivation of the vine should not, in some measure, give place to that of corn. The result, however, was to continue the cultivation of the vine as before, wine being the chief export article of the kingdom.

The reason for which the Dey of Algiers declared war against Sweden, was, that the presents made to him on his accession, were unworthy of him: and he insists on the Venetians paying 17,000 sequins a-year, instead of 3500, which they used to pay.

Sugar, the great staple of the West Indies, is not indigenous to the new world—but first grew at Hispaniola in 1506, having been carried thither from the Canaries. Bachiller Velloso and Pedro Atienza were the first that extracted sweets from the canes: They yielded so well, that in a short time the island possessed forty water and horse mills.

DOMESTIC.

On the 15th December, an action was tried in the Court of King's Bench of England, at the instance of Mr Martin against Mr Petrie, for criminal conversation with the plaintiff's wife. The damages were laid at 20,000l.

The plaintiff was the eldest son of a man of fortune in the county of Galway, in Ireland. His father's fortune was in landed property 6000l. per annum.

The plaintiff, in the year 1777, became acquainted with his present wife, whose maiden name was Vessey, and likewise of one of the best families in Ireland. Her fortune was 5000l. and the father of the plaintiff, upon their marriage in the same year, gave them an establishment of 1500l. per annum. From the year 1777 to the month of June 1790, a period of 14 years, the plaintiff and his wife lived in the most perfect state of connubial happiness, a model for the rest of the world. In the course of that period, the plaintiff had nine children, three of whom are now living.

In the year 1789, the plaintiff, his wife, and daughter, went to Paris. In March 1790, the plaintiff was called from Paris into England upon business.

During Mr Martin's absence from Paris, the plaintiff's wife had unfortunately become acquainted with the defendant; and there, attracted by her beauty and accomplishments, he formed and completed his design of seduction.

Mr Petrie and she came to England together, and put up at the Royal Hotel, Pall-Mall.

Mrs Martin is now living under the protection of Mr Petrie, in a state of pregnancy.

The case, as above stated, was clearly proved; and Mr Erskine, for the defendant, exerted his ingenuity to mitigate the damages, which, by the verdict of the jury, were about to be denounced against the defendant.

He stated, that two courses of defence were generally taken by common adulterers: To mitigate the damages, by either calumniating the character of the husband, or by traducing that of the wife. In this case Mr Petrie did neither. Mr Martin he confessed to be a man of honour, family, and fortune; he believed him to have been a most attentive husband, and an affectionate father. His only apology was the infirmity of human nature, exposed to more than ordinary temptations; A beautiful and accomplished woman, unprotected by the presence of her husband, and to whom he had opportunities of daily access, and of daily witnessing those attractions which were the cause of this misfortune.

Lord Kenyon then summed up the evidence to the jury. He had observed, that the impressive manner in which the plaintiff's case had been stated to them, had had its due effect; it had arrested very properly their attention to a case not of the ordinary sort.

It had been said that the defendant was not so opulent as he had been stated; but there was an old maxim, that he who cannot pay with his purse should pay in his person. The indigence of the defendant, however, had not been proved, and the jury were therefore not limited by that consideration. The defendant's repentance had been even urged. What repentance? Down to this very moment the adulterous intercourse avowedly exists, the defendant thereby setting a public example of successful treachery: He braves it in the face of day, and contributes thereby more to debauch an already debauched age.

With these apologies, the defendant meets the call for damages; to estimate which, the jury should consider that the plaintiff was an injured husband, the eldest son of an honourable father; had been in possession of an amiable wife, with whom he had lived in happiness for 14 years, and by whom he had three children living, out of nine, the produce of his connubial felicity. Thus he was situated, till he was precipitated by the defendant from his station of happiness. To you, gentlemen of the jury, whose breasts are the repository of honour, he trusts his case. The damages laid in the declaration are 20,000*l.* It is for you to consider what is proper to give, in order to teach such persons that they will be subjected to a severe reckoning, who are not restrained by the duties of morality.

The jury brought in a verdict for the plaintiff—damages 10,000*l.*

Mr Petrie, against whom a verdict was given for *crim. con.* of no less than 10,000*l.* was a member of the Constituent Assembly of France, and the only Englishman in it.

Mr Daly, the manager of the Theatre Royal in Dublin, and his brother, a counsellor at law, have been sentenced by the Court of King's Bench of Ireland, the first to six months, the other to twelve months imprisonment in Newgate, for assaulting a gentleman in one of the boxes of the theatre, during the performance of a play.

On Monday the 19th of December a duel was fought at Ramsgate, Yorkshire, between John Watson, of Nenagh, in Ireland, and C. H. Fox, Esqrs. the latter of London; when, after exchanging one shot each, Mr Fox received a ball under his right breast, in consequence of which he died since in London, where he was removed by his own desire the day after.

On Tuesday the 22d December a duel was fought near Leixlip, in Ireland, between Lieutenant Grant, late of the 27th regiment of foot, and a Mr Harrison, of Galway, attorney, which ended fatally to the former.

The distance, which was seven paces, being measured, Lieutenant G. took his ground, and waiting near a quarter of an hour before Mr H. quitted his carriage, at length called to know if he was ready?

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On Mr H's coming from his
carriage, Lieutenant G. was
standing on his ground in an
oblique position, ready to fire,
but seeing Mr H. not prepared,
changed his position, so as to
present his full front to his an-
tagonist. Lieutenant G. again
asked if he was ready, and be-
ing answered in the affirma-
tive, he, without resuming his
former oblique position, fired,
and wounded Mr H. near the
groin; Mr H. fired at the same
moment, and stumbled forward
on receiving the wound; his
ball took place under Lieuten-
ant G's left pap; he fell instant-
ly, attempted to speak, but
was choked at once, the blood
gushing violently from his
mouth. A Mr Thomas, a sur-
geon in the army, who lives
near the spot, was present, but
could give no assistance.

On his falling, his friends
seemed to lose the power of
approaching him, and we are
informed that their tears strong-
ly spoke their high opinion of
this unfortunate young man's
amiable qualities, who was just
entered his 23d year.

The folly of a mistaken point
of honour, screened by the
weakness of our laws, has thus
in a moment hurried a man,
formed to be an ornament of
society, to an untimely grave.

Mr Grant was a native of
Scotland, of a very good fami-
ly, and was much beloved by
his brother officers.

On the 23d December, at
half past eight o'clock in the
morning, a fire broke out in a
young lady's apartments, on
the second floor in Richmond-

House, Privy Gardens, Lon-
don; which was occasioned by
a spark having shot from the
fire to the bed furniture, where
the young lady lay asleep; the
alarm being given, she was
with difficulty conducted down
stairs; about ten, the flames
communicated nearly to the
roof, by which time only one
engine had come. The Duke
of Richmond took the pipe in
his own hand, and conducted
the water to the place where
it broke out; but the fire in-
creased so fast, that they found
it necessary to remove the fur-
niture, books, &c. to the Duke
of Buccleugh's house; and a-
bout one o'clock the whole
roof fell in; three floating en-
gines on the river played the
water on the east side, and a
number of engines in the yard
played very rapidly, so that
soon after four o'clock they
got it nearly under. The Duke
of York, with about 300 of the
Coldstream regiment, assisted
the watermen, and kept off the
mob. A young man, who ven-
tured into the center window
for a favourite dog, received
ten guineas from the Duke of
Richmond, and one from the
Duke of York. The Duke's
valuable and splendid Museum
was fortunately saved, but the
damage is estimated at some
thousand pounds.

About two o'clock on Mon-
day morning, the 13th Dec.
a most dreadful fire broke out
at the sugar house of Mr En-
gell, Wellelof-square, London,
which entirely consumed the
same, together with another
behind contiguous to it; the

dwelling-house, and also the house of Mr Pritzler, besides damaging several others. There were about five hundred tons of sugar rough and refined. The conflagration was truly dreadful, and raged with the utmost fury for upwards of four hours. The loss is estimated at upwards of thirty thousand pounds. The same premises have been burnt down three times within the space of twenty years.

On the 10th December, about ten at night, Colonel Sinclair was attacked in Fleet street, London, by three men armed with bludgeons, who wounded him in a most shocking manner, and left him almost dead on the ground. It appears their intention was to assassinate, not to rob, as his money and watch were left. It had been reported that the Colonel was enlisting British subjects for the service of the French Princes. But on an examination of that gentleman, by a deputation from the Secretary of State's Office, it turns out to be a malicious falsehood.—The Colonel is now out of danger.

On the 14th of December, three young gentlemen were drowned in the Canal in St James's Park, London, by the ice giving way.

On Sunday the 25th December, between six and seven in the evening, there was a great storm of thunder at Greenock; the flashes of light-

ning were very vivid: Some sailors on board the *Minerva*; at the tail of the bank, were stunned by the lightning, but soon recovered. There had been a thaw all day, but after the thunder it inclined to frost. Accounts from Rothfay are more dreadful: About twenty minutes before seven, the sloop William of Rothfay was struck with lightning in the harbour; her mast shivered to pieces down to the deck, part of it driven to a great distance; the remaining part is said to have jumped up out of the ship: The William had no people on board at the time. The lightning also broke on the sea near a vessel lying at anchor, which was agitated by the shock.

This storm seems to have been of large extent. At Campbeltown, the night of the 25th, was the most dreadful for thunder and lightning in the memory of the oldest person.

At the commencement of the present reign, the steel manufacturers at Wolverhampton, in Staffordshire, presented his Majesty with a pair of buckles, value 500*l*.

As a striking instance of the greatness of the woollen trade of the West Riding of Yorkshire, an estate near Huddersfield belonging to the late Mr Thornton of Tierfall, near Bradford, which was out of lease, and produced no more than sixty pounds a-year, was lately sold for the astonishing sum of *L*. 10,750.

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 From p 32 to the end of that No, the
 pages are wrong marked; the next
 instead of 25 should be 32 and so on
 p 60, l 3, for had the not been, r had
 out the account of them been
 p 76, lines last and penult, dele the
 word that, in each
 p 124, l 14, for forfeited r forfeited
 ib. l 25 for anceres r anctres
 p 125, l 9, for perusal r perusal
 p 134, l 15, for prince r prince
 p 162, l 14, for 1794, r 1794
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 p 170, list of the excerpt, for this r thus
 p 181 and 182, running title, for of r on
 p 224, l 10 and 11 from bottom, for fac-
 cum ex pompes r fucum ex pomis
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 p 244, l 6, for distorted p distorted, se-
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 p 287, l 20, for gentlemen r gentleman
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 very
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 have r design. We have
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Place the head of George Herriot fronting page 1.
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